MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 OCTOBER 1983

Lebanon

Political Situation — Lebanon rejects anything that could damage the unity of its institutions, especially the Army, and will prevent any actions designed to impose a "fait accompli" on the proposed national dialogue conference, Beirut radio reported at the end of an extraordinary Cabinet session held in response to recent moves by Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt. Regarding current difficulties over choosing a venue for the conference, the Cabinet urged President Amin al-Jumayyil to maintain the position that the meeting should be held in Saudi Arabia. Meanwhile, Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri met with Al-Jumayyil's adviser Wadi' Haddad and subsequently flew to northern Lebanon for talks with former President Sulayman Franjuyah and former Prime Minister Rashid Karami, the radio noted. In a statement broadcast by the radio, the Saudi envoy said his talks with the two northern opposition leaders were aimed at speeding up the start of the reconciliation meetings.

The Command Council of the Phalangist Lebanese Forces, in a statement broadcast by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, described Junblatt's intention of establishing an autonomous administration in the Ash-Shuf as "an obvious partition plan" and "a Druze cover trying to conceal communist aims." Voice of Lebanon radio reported earlier that Junblatt has authorized his new administration to sequester Christian property in the area and use revenue from such assets to develop local services and strengthen his military forces. Meanwhile, Junblatt flew to Athens for talks with Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, Athens radio noted.

In Washington Foreign Minister Elie Salim discussed the Lebanese issue with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, MENA reported.

Security Situation — The Lebanese Army clashed with gunmen in southern Beirut on 3 October, Beirut radio reported. Intermittent clashes continued the following morning and about 300 members of the pro-Iranian "Al-Musawi" Shi'ite group reinforced the militias fighting the Army, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

Israeli and Syrian forces exchanged artillery fire in the Al-Biqa' valley on the evening of 3 October, Radio Free Lebanon reported. Earlier, the IDF spokesman announced that two Israeli soldiers were wounded by a car-bomb explosion southeast of Sidon, according to IDF Radio.

PLO Affairs

The officers and cadres of the PLO's central military operations center in Damascus and of the Fatah staff command there are joining the "revolutionary uprising" within Fatah, Damascus radio reported. A statement announcing the move by 140 officers and NCO's and criticizing PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat for ignoring the Fatah dissidents' demands was read by one of the officers at a press conference reported by the radio. In a different interpretation of developments in Damascus, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said the Syrian authorities have taken over the remaining Fatah offices in the city, giving some of them to the dissidents and closing others. The radio also warned that the Syrians are preparing a major military operation against the Palestinian camps north of Tripoli at a time when the Israelis are imposing a naval blockade on ships carrying supplies to 'Arafat's forces. PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir likewise stated that the PLO has "confirmed reports" that Syria has decided on a military operation aimed at disarming the fighters in northern Lebanon and thereby liquidating the Palestinian revolution, according to North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio. Earlier, Fatah Central Committee Member Salah Khalaf told Palestinians in Kuwait that it would be "no honor" for any Arab regime to plot 'Arafat's downfall and he warned the Syrians that the Palestinians will fight "to the death" to defend their last base in Lebanon because they have nowhere else to go, KUNA reported.

Israel

Shamir Government Negotiations — Prime Minister-designate Yitzhaq Shamir rejected a request by a group of six coalition members to postpone the selection of his new cabinet until next week, Jerusalem radio disclosed. One member of the group, which supports a national unity government, told the radio he will vote for the new cabinet if Shamir waits until 10 October in order to exhaust all possibilities of forming a unity government. Earlier, the group had voted not to support the new cabinet if their request was turned down, IDF Radio said.

Meanwhile, the Agudat Yisra'el faction decided to support new elections to the Knesset rather than vote for the new government, according to Jerusalem radio.

Energy Minister on Golan — Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i denied stating at a London news conference that Israel is prepared to make concessions to Syria on the Golan Heights, Jerusalem radio reported. Moda'i maintained that he had said only that Israel is prepared to negotiate with Syria without conditions.

Arms to Iran — During a press conference in France 28 September, Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon admitted that Israel had supplied arms to Iran until 1980 but with the agreement of the United States, the *Le Monde* said.

Egypt

Referring to the issue of the Egyptian ambassador's return to Tel Aviv, President Mubarak dismissed the "fuss" over the envoy and told journalists in Washington that the "Camp David agreements do not depend only on the ambassador's return," MENA reported. In an interview with the Israeli paper *Ma'ariv* in Washington, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali stressed that the ambassador will be sent back when Israel sets up a timetable for withdrawing from Lebanon. 'Ali denied that Egypt's relations with the Arab world will be renewed at Israel's expense. "We will not be prepared to sacrifice the peace process because of our relations with the Arab countries," the foreign minister told the paper.

Libya-Chad

During a meeting with aides in Paris 1 October, Chadian President Hissein Habre admitted that the government's military position is "shaky" and that his supporters are rebelling against him, diplomatic sources cited by JANA claimed.

Pakistan

Antigovernment protesters and police continued to clash in Sind Province following the 2 October local elections which were boycotted by the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, according to AFP. Meanwhile, a Pakistani official cited by Karachi radio denied recent reports broadcast by the BBC on violent incidents in Sukkur and Kashmir, calling them "totally baseless."

Afghanistan

A British "spy" working with rebel forces to smuggle out semi-precious stones and to collect information on troop movements was killed in a clash with government forces 1 July, the Foreign Ministry claimed at a press conference 2 October reported by BAKHTAR. Government troops seized transmitters designed to link up with U.S. telecommunications satellites as well as other electronic devices for collecting information, time bombs, and ammunition. Meanwhile, the UK Foreign Office denied any knowledge of the incident, according to the PRESS ASSOCIATION.

In separate incidents, the head of DRA military intelligence was killed by rebels as he approached his home in Kabul, a MUJAHID PRESS AGENCY report cited by SPA asserted. In Herat Province, Soviet-DRA Government troops retaliated against an earlier rebel attack by bombing villages and killing civilians, according to IRNA. In another clash in the province, rebel fighters killed 200 Soviet-DRA troops and destroyed a MIG and six tanks, IRNA said.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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Further Materials on Palestinian-Syrian Differences

Al-Wazir on Possible Attack

NC040744 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0540 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has warned of the distinct possibility of a military confrontation between Syria and the Palestinian revolution. In a statement today, he said that the Syrians are pushing matters toward a military operation which they want to carry out against the Palestinian revolution forces in the north. We have confirmed reports of a Syrian decision to carry out a military operation, regardless of the price in terms of blood and innocent human victims, to disarm and liquidate the revolution.

We sound the alarm for the masses of our entire Arab nation, wherever they are at these historic moments, and warn them of the gravity of the coming days during which the Syrians want to implement a hellish plan to strike at the Palestinian revolution and disarm the fighters. We fought the Zionist enemy in order to foil a similar plan.

Brother Abu Jihad added: Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and the leadership of Fatah and the Palestinian revolution have done their utmost to freeze the dispute and normalize the relations [with Syria], but all doors have been closed in our face. The Syrian authorities have adopted persistent and systematic steps to strike at the Palestinian revolution. They first surrounded our forces in Al-Biqa' and the mountain and then forced them under the threat of arms to move to Al-Hirmil, where they wanted to disarm them. Having failed at this, we see them now concentrating their forces, including armor, heavy artillery, rocket launchers, and special units, in preparation for the military operation which they want to carry out. As part of this operation, the Syrians will try to exploit the dissidents and the Ahmad Jibril group and to involve the Palestine Liberation Army attached to the Syrian staff.

Consequently, we warn of the gravity of the situation and the possibility that it may erupt in the next few days. This comes at the same time the Syrian authorities have closed and occupied the Fatah offices in Syria, sometimes under the name of the dissidents with the protection of the Syrian intelligence men and sometimes directly by the intelligence organs. Yesterday, six offices were occupied by this method, and a number of our officers and cadres in Damascus were arrested.

Brother Abu Jihad noted that the Syrian forces have intensified their provocative presence in the Palestinian revolution's deployment areas in northern Lebanon with the aim of tightening the siege around our forces and our Palestinian people's camps. We have confirmed information that there is a Syrian plan which will begin by provoking us in order to drag us into a direct military battle, especially now that the Syrian forces have been deployed in a threatening manner around the revolution forces.

Finally, Abu Jihad said that the Palestinian revolution and the Fatah movement will confront all these dangers and plans, regardless of the circumstances and consequences. We have not been accustomed to surrendering to anyone and we will defend our revolution, people, and rifles with resolve and without compromise.

Al-Wazir AR-RAYAH Interview

GF031150 Doha QNA in Arabic 0745 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Doha, 3 Oct (QNA) — Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has emphasized that the Palestinian leadership and the Fatah movement leadership, in particular, are extremely concerned to avoid dragging the Palestinian revolution into armed disputes of secondary importance. He also expressed concern about preventing Palestinian internecine fighting. Saying that the dissident movement within Fatah has given the world a distorted image of the Palestinian struggle, he stressed that the Fatah leadership is exerting strenuous efforts to tackle this schism through the movement's diplomatic channels and by carrying out the necessary reform within the movement.

In a statement made in Tripoli, Lebanon, and published in today's issue of the Qatari paper *Ar-Rayah*, Abu Jihad stressed the readiness of the Fatah leadership to hold the movement's fifth conference at anytime in a form to be agreed upon, in order to sort out the movement's problems. He added that the Palestinian revolution is eager to restore Palestinian-Syrian relations and to resume Fatah's excellent relations with Syria. He referred to the links between Syria and the PLO, which, he said, are based on struggle and fate. He also emphasized the Palestinian revolution's full support for the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Islamic forces. He said the Palestinian revolution would give the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Islamic forces as much support as possible. Such support will take a form that is acceptable to the circumstances of the Nationalist Movement and the Islamic forces.

Referring to the U.S. threats and interference in Lebanon, he said the Palestinian revolution is confronting the U.S. moves, which are designed to deal blows to the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, to Syria, and to the Palestinian revolution.

Concluding, he called for cohesion between the Lebanese Nationalist Forces and the Palestinian revolution on the one hand with Syria on the other in order to confront the Zionist and U.S. challenges in the region.

Syrian Naval Action

JN031747 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Reports from Lebanon say that a number of Syrian naval units yesterday entered Lebanese territorial waters off the northern Lebanese coast to carry out surveillance activities against the Nahr al-Barid and Al-baddawi camps near Tripoli. The reports say the Syrian measure followed the unloading of weapons, part of the arms supplies to Palestinian revolution forces, from three fishing boats on the shore near Al-Baddawi camp.

It is recalled that the Israeli Navy recently carried out an act of piracy in the Mediterranean Sea against civilian ships carrying Palestinian passengers, food, and medical supplies bound for Tripoli. The Israelis forced these ships to go to Haifa port in the occupied homeland, arrested the Palestinian passengers, mostly civilians, and confiscated all medical and food supplies. Before this, and in a similar act of piracy, the Israeli Navy openly confiscated a ship which carried arms supplies to our forces in Tripoli.

For more details on this subject, here is our correspondent's dispatch:

[Begin recording] Over the past 2 days, the Syrian authorities have extended their control over the rest of the Fatah offices in Damascus and other Syrian areas. The Syrian authorities handed some of these offices over to the dissidents and sealed off others with red wax.

Meanwhile, the Syrian authorities have sent agent forces which have begun a new plot against the Palestinian revolution and its positions and against our camps in Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid in northern Lebanon. The Syrian authorities enhanced this operation by sending an armored Syrian force equipped with artillery and missiles to continue their harassment of the Palestinians within a systematic plan aimed against the PLO and its forces and against the Palestinian people's rights and aspirations. Syrian preparations are currently under way to control and besiege the area.

These serious developments come at a time when an Israeli naval siege is also taking place. The Zionist enemy has seized three ships bound for Tripoli carrying food, medicine, and personnel. This was done in an open, brazen act of piracy on the high seas and under the protection of the U.S. fleet in the Mediterranean.

The Syrian forces are carrying out a siege operation in northern Lebanon which will be a prelude to a large-scale military operation in the region in general and against the Palestinian camps in particular. [end recording]

Khalaf on 'New Plots'

LD032211 Kuwait KUNA in English 1300 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 3 (KUNA) — No Arab regime has the right to ask the Fatah movement or the Palestine Liberation Organization to change or remove its leadership, Fatah Central Committee Member Salah Khalaf told an audience of Palestinians here Sunday night. "That is the business of the Palestinian people alone," said Khalaf, usually known by his nom-de-guerre of Abu Iyad.

Addressing members of Palestinian unions and guerrilla groups at the PLO's Kuwait office, Khalaf blasted alleged attempts by Arab countries to remove Fatah leader and Palestine Liberation Chairman Yasir 'Arafat from his post. Abu Iyad said 'Arafat would remain a symbol of the Palestinian revolution and it was "no honour" for any Arab regime to plot his downfall.

But Khalaf warned that new plots were afoot with the aim of provoking inter-Palestinian clashes in North Lebanon. He likened the situationin the Tripoli area to occurrences in Jordan in 1970-71, when the Jordanian Army launched a bloody attack on Palestinian fighters.

Abu Iyad said two divisions of the Syrian-controlled Palestine Liberation Army were being prepared for the "forthcoming battle" against 'Arafat's forces, but expressed confidence that Palestinian fighters would not allow themselves to be used to "bear arms against their brothers." Khalaf added that Syria could physically destroy the town of Tripoli "but", he continued, "we will not leave the north (of Lebanon) except as dead bodies ...because it is our final base... where else can we go?"

Denouncing the "dark deeds" perpetrated against the Palestinian people, Abu Iyad expressed the hope that however deep inter-Palestinian rifts grew, there would always be a "red line" governing means of solving problems.

He indicated that oppression of Palestinians in Arab countries went to the extent of removing Palestinian children from state schools and dismissing Palestinians en masse from their jobs.

Khalaf criticized "some Palestinians" for expressing criticism of the revolution and its leadership on official Arab broadcasting media..."This only serves the revolution's enemies", he warned.

Khalaf said he would behappy to see the removal of 'Arafat and the entire Fatah leadership "if the path of liberation demands this". But, he stressed, this would never be done simply to please certain Arab rulers. "Our cause will be finished if we present 'Arafat as a sacrifice or hostage to some regime of president," he said.

Khalaf concluded by reminding his audience that 'Arafat has been prepared to present his resignation at last February's Palestine National Council (parliament) meeting in Algiers, but this had been unanimously rejected by all of the PLO's groupings.

Damascus: More Join Dissidents

JN032213 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2118 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] The officers and cadres of the military central operations in Damascus and in the Palestinian staff command of the Fatah movement, who number 23 officers, have announced that they are joining the revolutionary uprising within Fatah. One of the officers, who represents 140 officers and NCO's, read a statement during a press conference held this afternoon in the presence of journalists and correspondents of Arab and foreign news agencies accredited in Damascus. The officer strongly criticized the recent military measures and appointments made by 'Arafat's leadership among the movement's ranks, which further deteriorated the situation. He added that the cadres in Fatah have waited a long time for the Fatah command to carry out political and organizational corrections within the movement, but the command, he said, continued on the same deviated course, which spread corruption, chaos, and increased illegal profiteers.

The statement said that 'Arafat's leadership continues to ignore the demands of the movement and the uprising. We felt that the Central Committee is incapable of deciding on any corrective measures and shouldering the burdens of the coming stage.

The statement gave evidence of this impotence by referring to the Central Committee's implementation of the investigation decisions and of its freezing of some elements. The officers stressed in their statement that they joined the uprising within Fatah following a previous conviction and in light of their faith in the justice of the demands raised by the dissident movement. They said further that they had expected that the just demands, which are in accordance with the Palestinian people's ambitions and aspirations, would be met in order to bolster their people's struggle to regain their usurped rights. However, the Fatah leadership, represented by 'Arafat, has ignored all the demands for a corrective movement within Fatah.

The statement added that 'Arafat's leadership claims that the problem is not with Fatah cadres but with the Arab regimes. It does so in order to escape its responsibilities and to avoid meeting the just demands, which express the feelings of the majority.

Responding to a question regarding 'Arafat's visit to Tripoli and his claim that he has fought in the mountain, one of the officers said that 'Arafat tried, through these claims, to support Israel and the United States with more pretexts to attack the Nationalist Forces in the mountain. 'Arafat's visit to Tripoli, the officer said, has further complicated the matter. The officer referred to the Lebanese National Salvation Front's criticism of this visit.

Replying to a question on the reason for joining the revolutionary movement within Fatah, another officer said: After showing great patience, I hoped that 'Arafat would meet the demands of the uprising. After his failure to do so, I decided to join the uprising, particularly since I noticed recently that 'Arafat does not even consider the Central Committee's resolutions.

Asked whether Syria is backing the uprising, this officer said: We and the Syrians are now facing a stage where U.S., French, and British fleets are threatening the Arab nation. We and the Syrians must strongly confront this imperialist force in order to safeguard the Arab entity.

Responding to another question, this officer asserted that the interest of the Palestinian people and the Palestinian revolution is more important than anything else. He said further that only a few officers who formerly served in the Jordanian Army are left now under 'Arafat's leadership. He added that the majority of these officers have personal interests.

Attacks Near Damascus Reported

JN301627 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] A Palestinian military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following: Armed groups belonging to the Syrian fedayeen association [ar-rabitah al-fida'iyah as-suriyah] advanced toward our positions in the perimeter of the revolution [ath-thawrah] in the Damascus suburbs and opened fire on our positions. The fighters were forced to respond strongly to the attackers' fire. In a subsequent 15-minute battle, our fighters managed to prevent the attackers from entering our positions and forced them to flee in the direction of the Al-Karamah camp.

The spokesman added: Our sentry officer Brother Mahmud Mustafa was reported missing. We also had one fighter killed and another wounded. He said that after their escape, the attackers reassembled in the Al-Karamah camp and are expected to attack our positions once again.

It is noteworthy that the Syrian authorities remain silent over what has happened. It seems that these authorities are searching for another pretext to justify their aggression against the Palestinian revolution forces positions, as they justified their criminal deed against the bases and positions of our fighters in Al-Biqa' and Al-Hirmil.

Camps Protest 'Massacre'

JN010850 Amman Sawt ash-Sha'b in Arabic 1 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Amman — The Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan have urged the Arab kings and presidents to intervene and stop the massacre perpetrated by the Syrian regime against the Palestinian revolution forces.

In a cable addressed to the Arab leaders, the camps called on these leaders to personally intervene with the Syrian president to stop the assaults against the Palestinian revolution forces in Al-Biqa' and interference in the PLO's affairs and to put an end to Syrian attempts to establish a new PLO.

The cable emphasizes the Palestinian people's adherence to the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat.

Liberation Front Denounces 'Arafat

JN012103 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] The Palestine Liberation Front has stressed the need for the mobilization of national capabilities to confront the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary design that maintains that a settlement of the Palestinian problem cannot be achieved. They also stressed the need to reject all the liquidatory designs which contradict the Palestine National Charter.

In a press statement today, the Front denounced the massacre that 'Arafat and Al-Wazir committed in Al-Baddawi camp. The statement said: The Front denounces all forms of violence to settle Palestinian differences.

The Front appealed to all sincere parties to assume their responsibilities in order to foil the attempts of those who seek to turn the Palestinian arena into a bloodbath.

Spokesman on Syrian Measures

JN031030 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] A spokesman for the Fatah command stated this morning that the Syrian authorities yesterday took control of all the remaining Fatah offices in Damascus and the other Syrian governorates. They handed some of these offices to the dissidents and sealed the others with red wax.

The spokesman stated that the Syrian forces are currently entrenching their positions around Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid refugee camps north of Tripoli.

Al-Hasan Denies Knowledge of New U.S. Initiatives

GF021842 Kuwait Al-Qabas in Arabic 1 Oct 83 P 1

['Amid ash-Shinti Dispatch]

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan has said that the PLO has no information about press reports on the results of the meetings between King Hasan II of Morocco and U.S. President Reagan and on new American ideas or new initiatives regarding the struggle in the Middle East.

In an exclusive statement to *Al-Qabas*, he added: We have made it clear on more than one occasion that such press reports may be a repetition of the U.S. style which is always followed before the convening of any Arab summit meeting in critical circumstances. We have also made it clear that if there are any new ideas the PLO will only discuss them so long as the U.S. Administration recognizes the Palestinian people and the PLO as their representative and the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. Any idea that is not based on this concept will not be discussed because it would be a continuation of the Camp David accords.

'Arafat, Lebanon's Karami Meet in Tripoli

JN031923 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] A meeting was held today in Tripoli, the capital of northern Lebanon, between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami. According to the Palestinian news agency, the talks dealt with the current situation in Lebanon and the Arab world.

'Arafat Denies PLO Involvement in Ash-Shuf Conflict

LD031238 Kuwait KUNA in English 1008 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 3 (KUNA) — Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasir 'Arafat reiterated a denial Monday that Palestinian fighters were involved in the Ash-Shuf mountain battles between the Phalangist-backed Lebanese Army and the Progressive Socialist Party. In a brief interview conducted by *"Al-Qabas" in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli, 'Arafat* said the Palestinians had never been involved in Lebanese-Lebanese conflicts and their forces were in the Ash-Shuf before the Israeli partial withdrawal along the Al-Awali river in south Lebanon.

He explained that "the Palestinian fighters alongside the Lebanese resistance movement" had carried out a successful war of attrition against the Israeli invading troops which "forced Israel to carry out its partial pullout and led to the resignation of Begin (Israel's outgoing premier Menahem Begin)".

'Arafat charged that the presence of the American Marines within the four-nation multi-national force in Beirut is aimed at "partitioning Lebanon into 21 sectarian mini-states after Balkanizing the region." Arafat regretted that the Arab nation is not aware of that "dangerous criminal plan" but pledged that the "volcano which erupted during the 88-day siege of Beirut, by Israeli forces last year, would not stop."

Answering a question on whether the Palestinian revolution is being targetted directly by the American Marines in Lebanon, 'Arafat recalled that U.S. President Ronald Reagan had flatly threatened the PLO, in addition to threats made by Israeli leaders.

Hawatimah Comments on Results of Fatah Mediation

JN301747 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], announced in Damascus today that the Palestinians must resort to their official institutions within the PLO in order to find solutions to their internal differences. Hawatimah added that this method alone is capable of clearing the air and rectifying and promoting Palestinian-Syrian relations in particular and Palestinian-Arab relations in general.

Hawatimah said that he opposed submitting Palestinian differences and problems to the agenda of the Arab summit conference scheduled to be held in Saudi Arabia in October. Hawatimah said that, contrary to what has been said and published, the PLO Central Council did not fail in its efforts to settle the current conflict witin the Fatah movement. He affirmed that the committee which was formed by the Council is currently preparing to exert new efforts. He said the committee intends to propose a political statement to both Fatah camps which will contain the various points of difference and ways of resolving them. He said that if the two sides agree, the PLO Central Council will be asked to convene to discuss the results of this committee's work.

Cuba Reiterates Call for Fatah Meeting

GF031911 Doha QNA in Arabic 1840 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 3 Oct (QNA) — An official Palestinian source affirmed here today that Cuba has reiterated its call for the two Fatah factions to meet in the Cuban capital. In a statement here today, the source said that Levi Farah, the Cuban construction minister [title as received], carried this call to the two disputing parties during his visit to Damascus. He informed them that his

country is very concerned with this issue and that it would continue its efforts to end the dispute. Ending it is very necessary and is in the interest of the Palestinian revolution and the Arab and international liberation movements. He affirmed that Cuba is ready to exert efforts to end this dispute and that it considers its call for the two parties to meet in Havana at any convenient time still open.

During the past 3 days the Cuban minister held a series of meetings with all parties concerned in the Fatah movement and with a number of leaders of Palestinian resistance factions.

The Palestinian source said that Levi Farah will visit Tunis during the next few days. The Cuban minister left Damascus today after a 10-day visit to Syria, during which he participated in the meetings of the Arab expatriates conference which was held in Damascus.

Baghdad Voice of PLO Refutes Junblatt Statement

JN030947 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 2 Oct 83

[Unattributed Commentary]

[Text] Brothers, since that period, and precisely since the escalation of the Palestinian participation in the war in the mountain, a participation which threatened the roots of the U.S. design to such a degree that Ronald Reagan was forced to say that the PLO is responsible for the battles in the mountain and for the escalation of these battles [fragment as heard] Reagan's statement was accompanied by a streng.nening of the U.S. military role in those battles, especially around the strategic town of Suq al-Gharb, which was on the verge of falling into the hands of the joint Palestinian and Lebanese Nationalist Forces.

We say that, since that period, Brother Walid Junblatt has made a series of statements on Palestinian participation in the mountain battles. These statements are strange. These statements have also gone far beyond commenting on Palestinian participation; they comment on important and fateful Lebanese issues, especially those issues related to the stand on the Zionist occupation. In this respect, Junblatt said the Zionist occupation cannot be removed by force, only through a political solution.

This makes many political observers wonder: Then why does Junblatt oppose the Israeli-Lebanese-U.S. agreement if this agreement was made in accordance with the political solution, as the Lebanese authorities claim when they defend the agreement? Observers also ask: Why does Junblatt concurrently adopt such a stand on the Zionist occupation and on the Palestinian participation? Is a certain party which has an important relationship with the Lebanese situation trying to convey a message through these statements? The strangest question is: Does Junblatt seek to absolve himself of the Palestinian participation in the mountain war — not only the participation of the Palestinians but of other parties belonging to the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, whom Junblatt called the leftist fighters? If this is true, then in whose interest is this absolution and for what purpose?

In his latest statement yesterday, Brother Walid Junblatt said the PLO sent its fedayeen to Ash-Shuf without getting the approval of any Junblatt official and that these fedayeen had gone to Ash-Shuf as leftist fighters. He added that there are only Druze fighters in the mountain, and the leftist fighters have left the mountain. He also said: Our fighters will expel the remaining leftist and Palestinian fighters from the area.

Before Junblatt made these statements, a few days ago, AFP cited Moshe Arens, the enemy war minister, as saying that Israel had sent a message to the Lebanese Druze leaders asking them to expel the Palestinian fighters who entered Ash-Shuf following the Israeli forces' withdrawal. According to AFP, Arens added: If the Druze do not expel the Palestinian forces from Ash-Shuf, then we will do so.

Is there any question after this statement? Yes. It is the question of whether the Palestinian forces need anyone's permission to fight the U.S. enemy which poured rockets from its ships over the heads of the Lebanese masses and the fighters of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement — the leftist fighters, as Brother Walid Junblatt put it. Do we need permission to fight against the common enemy at the side of comrades of the one trench, the comrades of the one trench who have fought a long time against the Zionist enemy in order to baptize Palestinian-Lebanese relations with the blood of martyrs and great sacrifices? It is our duty and pleasure to stand alongside the comrades of the one trench in order to fight against the U.S. enemy, who seeks to partition Lebanon and to turn it into zones of influence for the regional forces present in Lebanon.

What about using the terminology "the leftist fighters?" What does this treminology mean? Are there leftist and non- leftist fighters in the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, in order to make this arbitrary classification of the comrades of the one trench? Was martyr Kamal Junblatt not a leader of all the Lebanese leftists, a leader of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement? Was Kamal Junblatt not a leader of the Arab front which participated in the Palestinian revolution?

We recall this in order to highlight the history of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], its militant history, and its pan-Arab and national stands when martyr Kamal Junblatt was the party's leader. Does this mean a deviation from this history and those stands specifically during a stage in which the nationalist Lebanese should close their ranks and deepen the formula of the single Palestinian-Lebanese trench? This formula is being baptized with the martyrs' pure blood as the joint Palestinian and Lebanese Nationalist Forces continue their heroic operations against the Zionist enemy in Lebanon.

The threats to Lebanon's unity, dignity, and sovereignty must incite all forces fighting against the Zionist-U.S. designs to strengthen their alliance. The most important of these forces is the PLO, whose expulsion from Al-Biqa' was a U.S. condition for halting the fighting that was raging in Ash-Shuf and the mountain. Does this mean that the announcement of the Palestinian fighters' participation took place without getting Junblatt's permision to fulfill what is required by the U.S. condition — that is, absolving himself of the PLO? Has the U.S. stick become so

frightning? Has the mere announcement of having relations with the PLO become so terrible? Finally, who is seeking to disintegrate Lebanon? Are they the Palestinian fighters or the U.S.-Zionist occupiers? What national accord is this that seeks to be achieved at the expense of the Palestinian question?

These are only questions. We hope that the news media have distorted Brother Walid Junblatt's statements, because we still believe that the Palestinian revolution's relations with the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the promotion of these relations are the only means of confronting the U.S.-Zionist schemes, which are the only danger confronting the Palestinian and Lebanese people and all of the Arab masses.

We remain confident that Brother Walid Junblatt will reexamine his accounts and be aware of the plots that are being hatched around him by those who exploit the blood of the PSP martyrs as compromise cards in the Zionist-U.S. settlements and at the negotiating table. We hope Junblatt will reexamine his accounts in order to safeguard the most sacred formula of alliance between the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement. As Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has said: We are confident that Kamal Junblatt's party was and will remain, like all of the Lebanese masses, at the side of the Palestinian revolution and in support of the Palestinian question.

PLO's Qaddumi Meets Delegates to UN Session

JN011737 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1622 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] The Palestinian delegation led by Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO's Political Department, continues its intensive contacts and meetings in New York with heads and members of the delegations participating in the 38th session of the UN General Assembly. Last night, Abu al-Lutf met with Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi and her delegation. Abu al-Lutf also met with the foreign ministers of the GDR and Portugal as well as with the USSR delegation.

Discussions in these meetings dealt with developments on the Palestinian question and means of further backing it in the international forums. Relations between the PLO and each of these countries and means of further promoting them were also discussed.

Abu al-Lutf also met with UNRWA's deputy president and discussed with him the humanitarian services UNRWA offers to the Palestinian people. He underlined the need for continuing these services, stressing that the termination of these services means a step toward liquidating the Palestinian question.

Further Contacts Reported

JN021750 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 2 Oct 83

[Text] In New York the Palestinian delegation led by Brother Abu al-Lutf, head of the PLO's Political Department, continues its important meetings and contacts with heads of Arab and friendly foreign delegations participating in the current session of the UN General Assembly. Abu al-Lutf has met with French President Francois Mitterrand, Moroccan King Hassan II, and the Cuban foreign minister. The talks dealt with the means to support the Palestinian question in international circles and the need to resolve this question in order to avoid dangers to world peace.

Abu al-Lutf is scheduled to meet with the Palestinian community in the United States to inform them of all the current developments regarding the Palestinian question.

King Hassan Chairs Jerusalem Committee Session

LD011659 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Correspondent's Report from New York]

[Excerpts] The Jerusalem Committee of the Islamic Conference Organization held its eighth session on Friday in New York under the chairmanship of King Hassan II in the presence of the representatives of the Committee member countries and Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization.

PLO representative Faruq Qaddumi also attended the meeting, as did a large number of foreign ministers, headed by the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Bangladesh, and Niger.

The Committee's first task was to acquaint itself with the efforts exerted since the last session, held in Marrakech in January, and the various stages of implementation of the resolutions adopted during that session before embarking on the adoption of new resolutions. Habib Chatti submitted a report to the Jerusalem Committee on these efforts and the stages of Islamic action during the past 8 months.

The Islamic Conference Organization is cooperating with the PLO office in Washington in preparing a seminar on Palestine to be held in Washington next October.

The Jerusalem document, prepared by a group of Islamic world intellectuals, will shortly be issued affirming the Arab character of Jerusalem and underlining its importance to Muslims. The document will be issued in implementation of a resolution adopted by the Jerusalem Committee chaired by King Hassan II.

A drafting committee has been formed to draw up a final statement, which is expected to be issued in New York today, on the results of the Jerusalem Committee session and the decisions decided upon within the framework of the basic rask of the Jerusalem Committee since the chairmanship was unanimously approved by the Arab states to be entrusted to King Hassan II. The basic task is to work for the liberation of Jerusalem from the grip of Israeli occupation and the protection of its Islamic holy places.

Hassan, Chatti Quoted

LD031458 Rabat MAP in English 1211 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Excerpts] New York Oct 3 (MAP) — The al-Quds committee of the Islamic conference was expected to issue recommendations Sunday on a fresh approach to enlist broad-based U.N. backing for Arab concerns in the occupied territories, particularly with regard to the holy city of Jerusalem.

The 15-member group met Friday night on the foreign ministers level in a Manhattan hotel under the chairmanship of King Hassan II of Morocco to hear the report of the secretary-general of the Jedda-based Islamic conference, Habib Chatti.

The secretary-general of the organization of the Islamic conference, Habib Chatti, presented a report to the committee Friday night.

King Hassan, who chaired the session, stressed in a speech the necessity of working hard to face the challenges ahead. The main thrust of the king's address focused on Israeli attempts of Judaization of Jerusalem through the establishment of Jewish settlements and other means. The Moroccan king thanked the OIC secretary-general on behalf of all members of the committee for his extensive activities since the last meeting of the committee in January.

One of the moves undertaken by the Islamic conference is the establishment of a military bureau. In his report Mr Chatti said the Islamic secretariat had requested Pakistan to nominate one of its army officers for the post of military bureau chief so that the opening may take place immediately and the required strategy may be implemented. The officer has been identified in the report as General Fazal Moqim. He has not been able to take up office for personal reasons, Mr Chatti said.

Concerning the struggle against settlements the Islamic conference had proposed a committee of experts whose members were to be Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria, Morocco, Malaysia, Senegal, and Palestine.

Other moves by the Islamic conference had included new contacts with the Vatican, the World Council of Churches and other Christian religious agencies and institutions with the aim of enlisting their support for the Arab peace plan.

Efforts to perpetuate the memories of the Sabra and Shatila massacres constituted yet another action by the conference. Mr Chatti said a specialised committee was charged with writing a booklet on the massacre which is expected to be published this month.

Text of Statement Issued

LD031504 Rabat MAP in English 1227 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] New York Oct 3 (MAP) The al-Quds committee of the organisation of Islamic conference has called on its members to maintain close contacts with African states in view of Israel's attempt to resume relations with them. A statement issued this Monday on the deliberations of the 15-member committee, held on Friday night, said the Israeli policy of establishing Jewish settlements practised racism against the Palestinian people. Israel also collaborated closely with the racist regime of South Africa, especially in the military and nuclear fields, it said.

Zaire and Liberia, both pro-United States countries recently reestablished ties with the Zionist state, and a few more are considering to follow suit.

The al-Quds committee session was presided over by King Hassan II of Morocco who is its chairman. The king was here in connection with the 38th session of the U.N. General Assembly.

The statement also called on the Islamic nations to apprise the nations around the world of the dangers posed by the proliferation of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, which was "an illegal act standing in the way of peace". They should particularly call on the United States that the settlements were "nothing but a kind of occupation policy", and that Washington should adhere to its initial position towards the settlements.

The following is the text of the statement:

"The al-Quds committee held its eighth meeting in New York on Friday 22 Dhul-hijja 1403 (September 30, 1983), under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, seeking to make this meeting coincide with the United Nations General Assembly in order to have the al-Quds and Palestine causes known and point out to the public opinion the firm Palestinian and Arab rights.

"After listening to his majesty's opening explanatory remarks and the report submitted by the secretary-general of the Islamic conference, the committee examined the situation facing the Palestinian and Arab causes in light of the general international and Islamic contexts, reaffirming its full confidence that the Arab and Islamic nations will continue striving to achieve the objectives in facing the Israeli attacks, and reaffirming its determination to pursue its efforts in mobilizing the Islamic potential in order to liberate the holy al-Quds and the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since 1967.

"After studying the development of the al-Quds question and the Palestinian cause at international level, the committee recommended:

1) — That utmost attention be given to the subject of Israeli settlements in al-Quds and the Palestinian occupied territories by:

A) — Calling upon all the Islamic nations, bilaterally and multilaterally, to approach the world nations in order to explain the danger posed by the continuation of the Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, and see to it that such a policy be discontinued in compliance with the world community's wish as formulated in the resolutions issues by the United Nations General Assembly and other international organisations, and pursuant to the Security Council decision 465 of March 1, 1981, which rejected the settlement policy, on the basis that it is a blatant violation of the fourth Geneva convention and an illegal act standing in the way of peace.

B) — Calling upon the United States of America, particularly, that settlements are nothing but a kind of occupation policy and acquisition of land by force, to adhere to its initial position towards the settlements policy which it had considered, on a number of occasions, as an illegal act standing in the way of peace.

2) — Reaffirms that all the legislative and administrative measures taken by the Israeli occupation forces be considered null and void,

3) — That the successive aggressions by the Israeli authorities against the holy sites in al-Quds, Galilee and the remaining parts of the Palestinian territories be denounced, and... appropriate measures be taken to face such aggressions and put an end to them,

4) — That, given the fact that the African support of the Palestinian cause stems from the principle of standing up against injustice and racism and defending the liberation causes in the world, an action be taken to face Israel's attempt to resume relations with African states, and that close contacts, bilaterally and multilaterally, be maintained with such states in order to point out the real aims of the Israeli settlement policy which practises racism against the Palestinian people and collaborates closely with the racist regime of South africa, especially in military and nuclear fields.

"The committee has furthermore recommended that the Islamic states intrduce an educational programme at all levels with a view to making the al-Quds question in particular and the Palestinian cause in general specially known, calling for an urgent implementation of the resolutions of al-Quds committee, mainly in reference to:

A) — Setting up national organisations in the Islamic states in order to collect donations for the support of the Palestinian struggle.

2)[number as received] — Twinning the capitals and large cities in the Islamic states with the holy al-Quds".

Briefs

PLO Envoy in Italy — The Italian news agency, citing Palestinian sources in Tunis, reported that Brother (Abu Na'il) has been appointed as head of the PLO bureau in Rome, succeeding Brother Nimr Haddad, who has been transferred to Prague. The agency explained that Brother (Abu Na'il) has been representing the PLO in Ethiopia. [Text][Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 30 Sep 83 LD]

GULF AFFAIRS

Group Claims Responsibility for Gulf Air Crash

NC030938 Paris AFP in English 0910 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Paris, Oct 3 (AFP) — A person claiming to represent an obscure gorup called the Arab Revolutionary Brigades today claimed the sabotage of a Gulf Air plane that crashed on September 23 near Abu Dhabi, Killing all 111 people on board. The person, who made the claim in a telephone call to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE headquarters in Paris, said the group "exploded" a device on the plane to respond to "fascist measures adopted by certain persons in power" in the United Arab Emirates. These measures, he said, had adversely affected a number of Arabs, "especially Palestinians." He did not detail the measures.

He said the Arab Revolutionary Brigades had specifically targeted an aide to one of the six emirs in the Emirates. He identified neither the aide, whom he said was aboard the plane, nor the emir, but said the aide was "directly linked to the Zionist enemy and the Pentagon."

The claim was difficult to confirm, since the organization was not known among officials in the Gulf.

Late last month, officials had refused to rule out the possibility of sabotage, noting that the plane had been on fire before it crashed about 120 kms (75 miles) northeast of Abu Dhabi.

But passenger lists did not show any prominent Emirate citizens. Most of the passengers on the Boeing 737-200 bound from Karachi to Abu Dhabi were Pakistanis returning to jobs in the Emirates.

BAHRAIN

Heir Apparent on Gulf Joint Maneuvers

GF040710 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0615 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] Manama, 4 Oct (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force (BDF), has emphasized that the Al-Jazirah Shield maneuvers, which are currently being held in the UAE, are the best means for raising the standard of the Gulf armed forces through continuous training. He added that this is proof of the political capability of the Gulf countries to do whatever will help to bolster the progress of the GCC.

Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah said this today in a statement marking tomorrow's scheduled departure for the UAE of a BDF unit to participate in the maneuvers. He said these maneuvers are a symbol of the unity of the GCC people and their wise leaders. He noted that this is the best translation into deeds of the resolutions adopted by the GCC countries to establish a joint force capable of protecting the region and the Arab and Islamic nations.

Concluding, he thanked the UAE for hosting the joint GCC forces and all the men in charge of the maneuvers.

KUWAIT

Newspapers Urge GCC Recognition of Egypt

LD041004 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0745 GMT 4 oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Oct (KUNA) — *Al-Anba'* describes Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's statement that the Egyptian people were deceived by the Camp David accord with Israel as a complete transformation in Egyptian policy. Meanwhile, *Ar-Ra'y al-'Amm* urges the GCC countries to take the initiative of resuming relations with Egypt.

In its editorial today, *Al-Anba'* says that this statement assumes the utmost importance in view of its having come from the president, and not the opposition, and having been made in Washington and not in Cairo, where it could have been said that it was purely for internal consumption. It adds: In his pan-Arab stand the Egyptian president is calling for considering the Camp David accord as an Israeli ploy which succeeded in distancing the great Egyptian Army from its leading position in the Arab war of liberation and destiny. It says: President Mubarak's statement opens the way for two very important matters: the resumption of Arab dialogue with Egypt and facilitating the formation of a united Arab stance regarding the declaration of intentions, which we suspect will include a basic real or sincere change regarding the issue of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The paper concludes its commentary: It is important to review President Mubarak's statement and discuss it within the context of Arab reality, where things will not be straightened out without Egypt's historic and firm participation in defining its course. The important thing is that Arabs move from the formula of suspicion and estrangement to the formula of wise communication and objective deliberation, away from limitations and a situation where each side pushes the other into a corner. The declared Egyptian position has to be utilized quickly in a way that would serve the interests of Egypt and Arabs at this bleak phase of Arab life.

Ar-Ra'y al-'Amm says: In any case it has become clear that President Mubarak is outside the accords. Maybe this has paved the path for many openings between Cairo and the majority of Arab capitals; even economic and political relation are virtually established, and nothing is lacking except the official declaration of the resumption of diplomatic relations. It added: In fact we believe that this step is the responsibility of the GCC countries. They must take a firm initiative on this and, headed by the sisterly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with its known importance and role, announce the resumption of diplomatic relations with sisterly Egypt.

It says: We all know that relations and contacts were established a while ago, and we also know and the Gulf countries in particular know that Mubarak's Egypt is different from As-Sadat's Egypt. It adds: We are certain that such an initiative made by the GCC countries would be welcomed by all the other Arab countries.

It says: Iraq was courageous in this regard and sent its foreign minister to Cairo on an official visit, declaring that what remained was a matter of formality. This means that Iraq for its part is waiting for an Arab initiative in which it may take part. The Gulf countries are best qualified to take this initiative, especially because the Arab circumstances and developments, from Lebanon to Palestine, the Gulf situation, and the Iraq-Iran war necessitate that Egypt must take its rightful place.

AL-ANBA' on Gulf War, U.S. Policy

GF031205 Doha QNA in Arabic 0805 GMT 3 Sep 83

[Text] Kuwait, 3 Oct (QNA) — The Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Anba'* reports today that Gulf sources have denied any knowledge of a French-U.S. plan to end the Iraq-Iran war. These sources, which were described as well informed, noted that the U.S. position toward the Gulf war has not changed, but that there are signs the United States is extremely concerned about Iranian threats to block the Strait of Hormuz and that it is mapping out an action plan in the event Iran takes such a step.

On another topic, the paper quotes the same source as saying that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign affairs and information minister, and George Shultz, U.S. secretary of state, at their latest meeting brushed aside to a great extent the difference between the two countries which arose over the appointment of a new U.S. ambassador to Kuwait. The paper points out that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad explained to Shultz Kuwait's intentions in rejecting this appointment and cited U.S. responsibility for exaggerating the issue through the U.S. information media. The sources expressed confidence that a new U.S. ambassador to Kuwait will be appointed shortly.

Algerian Prime Minister Arrives for Visit

LD032356 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Algerian Prime Minister Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani arrived in Kuwait at 1700 today for a 4-day official visit at the invitation of Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah.

Amir, Prime Minister Address Assembly

LD011346 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Excerpts] At 0900 today the amir of Kuwait opened the fourth ordinary sitting of the fifth legislative session of the National Assembly. The session was opened by a Koranic recitation, after which the amir delivered a speech:

[Begin As-Sabah recording] Brothers: Wars in the Arab and Islamic lands used to be against the colonialists, but after independence the wars became among brothers of the same homeland and among neighbors of the same faith. The old and new imperialists continue to nourish and fan these wars. The battlefields of these wars are our lands, those killed in them are our sons, and the wealth and efforts that are being wasted are ours too. We pray to God Almighty to guide the steps of Arabs and Muslims along the road of good and right.

Brothers, we must invoke the help of God. We must work for good in our deeds and words. We must adhere to what we believe to be right. Our trusted tasks are to preserve our national unity, to deepen consultations among ourselves, to care for our youth, to develop our economy, and to build up our forces to protect our homeland internally and externally. See to it that you honor the tasks entrusted to you. [end recording]

Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minsiter, also gave a speech, in which he said:

[Begin recording] The past year abounded with challenges, as well as with achievements, both internally and externally. With regard to external events, we cannot but recall with feelings of agony the suffering that Lebanon and its fraternal people and the Palestinian brothers have endured as a result of the continued recent barbaric Zionist aggression and the failure by the government of the Zionist entity to implement the UN Security Council resolution demanding the withdrawal of the Israeli aggressor forces from Lebanese territory. This complicated matters even further and posed a threat to peace in the whole region.

We also recall with sorrow and agony the escalation of the conflict among the different Lebanese factions and the fact that this conflict is taking forms that threaten Lebanon's unity and the essence of its independence, which has opened the door for intervention by various foreign forces that came under the pretext of keeping peace but soon became involved in the fighting. The intensive mediation efforts among the various parties to the conflict have been crowned with the recent cease-fire agreement, which is a prelude to a national reconciliation. Kuwait, which warmly welcomes this principled step, hopes that the cease-fire will act as an irrevocable start to a return of normal life to fraternal Lebanon in a manner that will preserve Lebanon's unity and independence and the reign of security throughout its territory. Kuwait also blesses the great efforts exerted by numerous sides, paticularly by the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to achieve this step.

The Palestine question has passed through difficult conditions recently. The Palestinian resistance has undergone difficult reappraisals which we have all followed with a great deal of concern and pain. But we are aware that all this will not weaken the determination of the faithful to achieve their right to an honorable life and existence. This will not prevent the realization of their objective of reaching a just solution for their cause, which is our cause and the cause of all Arabs and Muslims everywhere.

Kuwait continues to look forward to seeing the Islamic Republic of Iran respond to the continued efforts being exerted to end the war between it and the Iraqi Republic. The two countries, and the Arab and Islamic worlds, are in dire need of pooling their forces and amassing their capabilities, which are being exhausted in this war, in order to confront the aggressive designs against the entire region and to direct all their capabilities toward development and the realization of peace, prosperity, and stability. Kuwait, along with the fraternal and friendly countries, will continue to exert further efforts to put an end to this tragedy which casts huge gloomy clouds over the future of the entire region.

In order to safeguard the cohesion of the Arab ranks in the face of the huge dangers that threaten them, the amir of the land sent numerous messages to his brothers the Arab kings and presidents last year. Kuwait has repeatedly declared that it adheres absolutely to the principle that the safeguarding of the Gulf's security lies in the first place with the sons of the Gulf region. This demands that the GCC member countries possess adequate defense capabilities to enable them to shoulder their responsibility of protecting the region's security. In this regard, cooperation and coordination has been undertaken with the brother members of the GCC. The government also paid special attention to enhancing the efficiency of our Armed Forces through organization, training, and arming. The near future will witness the first joint military maneuvers to be held by the armed forces of the GCC member countries.

Internally, the government continued to implement the programs contained in its statement to your honorable Assembly during its first sitting. Safeguarding security and stability were at the forefront of what the government sought to achieve. Social and economic developments in Kuwait and the developments that have taken place in the whole region produced some effects that, in turn led to the emergence of some types of crimes foreign to our society and environment. This necessitated confronting them with the maximum firmness and efficiency. The security forces enhanced their performance in this regard in a record time excelled only by the speed with which the perpetrators of these crimes were unmasked and arrested in preparation for putting them on trial. The security forces will continue to pursue all elements that harm the country's security or try to undermine its safety. In all their efforts, the security forces look forward to further cooperation by the citizens with the competent state machinery out of the common responsibility we all shoulder, to ensure that Kuwait will remain, as always, an oasis of stability, security, and reassurance for all those who live on its good earth. [end recording]

OMAN

Foreign Minister on PDRY Ties, Iranian Threats

GF031451 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1150 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Muscat, 3 Oct (WAKH) — Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of foreign affairs, has said that it has been agreed to announce establishment of relations between Oman and the PDRY on 27 October, the first anniversary of the signing of the declaration of principles between the two countries in Kuwait. In a statement published in today's issue of the newspaper *'Uman*, Al-'Alawi said the technical committee for defining the border between the two countries will hold its postponed meeting on 30 October in Kuwait to continue discussion of the border issue in accordance with the provisions of the declaration of principles on the common border between the two countries.

On the maneuvers the GCC forces are carrying out in the UAE, the Omani minister of foreign affairs said they are very routine and are a test of the defense capability of the GCC Rapid Deployment Force.

On the Iranian threats to close the Strait of Hormuz to international navigation, Al-'Alawi affirmed that these threats are real and still stand and they will continue to stand as long as the Iraqi-Iranian war continues. Al-'Alawi said Oman is ready to shoulder its responsibility within the GCC grouping but will not act alone on this matter. He said Gulf efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian dispute continue, noting that despite the fact that they have not resulted in any agreement between the two parties, at the same time they have not failed.

He reiterated Oman's call for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and for providing a favorable atmosphere for the Lebanese Government and the legitimate authority to impose its control and sovereignty all over Lebanon. He also reiterated Oman's call for the withdrawal of the invading Soviet forces from Afghanistan and enabling the Afghan people to achieve independence and sovereignty.

PDRY

Chairman Arrives in Sofia From Moscow

GF011645 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, arrived in Sofia, the capital of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, following a brief working visit to the Soviet Union during which he held talks with Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Meeting With Zhivkov

For a Sofia BTA account of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's meeting with Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee, see the Bulgaria section of the 4 October *Daily Report*.

'Antar Receives DFLP Politburo Member

GF031445 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Brig Gen ['amid] 'Ali Nasir 'Antar, member of the YSP Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Supreme People's

Council Presidium, and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, met at his office in the cabinet secretariat today with Brother Abu 'Adnan, member of the Political Bureau of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]. During the meeting Brother 'Ali 'Antar reviewed the march and experience of the glorious 14 October revolution on both the popular and official levels. He emphasized that celebration of the 20th anniversary of the 14 October revolution is significant on both the Yemeni and the Arab levels, particularly with regard to the emphsis of the principled and firm stand of our Yemeni people and revolution in support of the just struggle of the Palestinian Arab people to regain their legitimate and inalienable rights, especially their rights to repatriation, self-determination, and to establish an independent state on their national soil under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate represnetative. 'Antar stressed the importance of struggle to achieve increased cooperation and coordination between the YSP and the DFLP as well as all the factions of the Palestinian and Arab national liberation movement to confront imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary plots.

Abu 'Adnan expressed his appreciation for the PDRY's principled and firm stands on the Palestinian question and the revolutionary struggle of our Arab peoples. He asserted that the experience of the PDRY's 14 October revolution is a strong inspiration for all Arab patriots and progressives whose duty is to strengthen the steadfastness of the PDRY's progressive regime by escalating the national and democratic struggle in the Arab region.

Official Receives PLO Representative 3 Oct
GF031753 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Abu Bakr 'Abd ar-Razzaq Ba Dib, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, received in his office today Brother 'Abbas Zaki, Fatah Revolutionary Council member and PLO representative in Aden. They reviewed the latest Lebanese and Palestinian developments in particular and Arab developments in general. They also discussed coordination and cooperation to confront the threats, challenges, and plots whose objectives are the destruction of the Arab liberation movement, and above all the Palestinian revolution.

Abu Bakr Ba Dib reaffirmed the PDRY's principled and firm support for the Palestinian people's struggle under the leadership of the PLO — their sole legitimate representative — to regain their legitimate rights, including their rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state on their national soil.

QATAR

Amir Receives Message From Yasir 'Arafat
GF041100 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] His highness the amir, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, has received a written message from PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat dealing with the Palestinian issue in the Arab arena in general and in the Lebanese arena in particular. The message was conveyed by the director of the PLO office in Doha, Yasin ash-Sahrif, during a meeting with his highness the amir at his office in the Doha palace this morning.

SAUDI ARABIA

Bandar Comments on Talks With Reagan, Lebanon
PM030948 London Ash-Sharq al-Awsat in Arabic 30 Sep 83 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Prince Bandar Says: Israel's Withdrawal Is Arab, Lebanese, and International Demand"]

[Excerpts] Washington — Yesterday, Thursday, Saudi Ambassador-designate in Washington Prince Bandar ibn Sultan delivered a written message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to President Ronald Reagan at the White House. Later, in an interview with *Ash-Sharq al-Awsat* in his office, Prince Bandar said that his talks with President Reagan were excellent. In a departure from protocol, President Reagan received Prince Bandar before the prince presented his credentials.

In his interview with *Ash-Sharq al-Awsat*, Prince Bandar said that President Reagan expressed deep appreciation of the efforts made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and King Fahd in the interests of peace in the region.

In reply to a question about his talks with President Reagan, Prince Bandar said that it is not customary for Saudi officials to divulge details of what goes on between King Fahd and leaders of other states.

He added that what is important now is the consolidation of the cease-fire [in Lebanon]. King Fahd, he said, is following the matter up and is interested in the success of the national dialogue among the Lebanese brothers, and Saudi Arabia will continue to support the positive efforts made so far.

He added: We remain confident that all sides want the cease-fire to hold up and the dialogue to continue, and that President al-Jumayyil wants to be the president of all Lebanon and to establish an even-handed rule and social justice for all the Lebanese people.

Answering another question, he said that the major obstacle to a final agreement is the question of Israeli withdrawal. When Israel withdraws, he said, it will be easy to eliminate all other obstacles.

Prince Bandar emphasized that Israeli withdrawal is an Arab, Lebanese, and international demand which, if fulfilled, will facilitate the tackling of other sensitive issues preventing and agreement.

Prince Bandar does not believe that the question of observers poses a serious problem. He pointed out that the agreement speaks of neutral observers, not international observers.

Explaining Syria's objection, he said that Damascus believes that international observers operate between states, not between people of the same country.

At any rate, he said that he does not consider this matter to be a big problem and believes that it should not be exaggerated.

Asked whether he spoke to President Reagan of the need for U.S. pressure on Israel to withdraw, he said that this is the Saudi position, but again he declined to go into the details of his talks with President Reagan.

Defense Minister Leaves for Spain 3 Oct
GF031312 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Excerpt] His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister, and inspector general, left Jidda today for Spain on a 4-day official visit.

Ministerial Committee Reviews Plan Tasks
GF020706 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 2 Oct 83

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation, chaired a meeting at the Planning Ministry in Jidda yesterday to study the strategy of the fourth plan which the minister of planning has presented to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the chairman of the Council of Ministers. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Mut'ib ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of public works and housing; His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of interior; Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs; Hasan ibn 'Abdallah Al ash-Shaykh, minister of higher education; Hisham Nazir, minister of planning; Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi, minister of industry and electricity and acting health minister; Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman Al ash-Shaykh, minister of agriculture and water; 'Abd al-Wahab 'Abd al-Wasi', minister of pilgrimage affairs and awqaf; Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, minister of education; Dr 'Alawi Darwish Kayyal, minister of posts, telephone, and telegraph; 'Ali Hasan ash-Sha'ir, minister of information; Husayn Mansuri, minister of communications; Ibrahim Muhammad Al ash-Shaykh, minister of justice; Dr Sulayman as-Sulayyim, minister of commerce; Ibrahim al-'Anqari, minister of municipal and rural affairs; Dr Muhammad al-Mulhim, minister of state; and Muhammad al-Fayiz, minister of labor and social affairs.

In a speech at the outset of the meeting, His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz expressed his happiness and pleasure over the splendid achievements the Kingdom has accomplished in the three previous development plans under His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Crown Prince His Royal Highness 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. His Highness said: I congratulate my colleagues on achieving their assigned task of revising the fourth 5-year plan which his excellency the planning minister has presented to His Majesty King Fahd. His highness thanked Almighty God for His grace over this country and the grace of Islam, peace, and stability which have enabled us to carry out our duty toward this nation and toward the Islamic nation.

After the meeting of the ministerial committee, his highness the defense and aviation minister made a statement. He said it has been decided that ministers concerned with development will meet with technicians in all sectors in the Kingdom to study the bases for overall strategy, after which the ministerial committee will reconvene to examine this strategy which will benefit the homeland, and then this strategy will be presented to the Cabinet for approval.

His highness said that the period of time for studying the plan will probably be 1 month. He added that the fourth plan addresses all shortcomings noted in the previous plans, saying that basic preparations have been completed and that the fourth plan will focus on operations and maintenance and creating manpower and training the efficient Saudi man who is able to carry out his duty.

In reply to a question on whether there will be a freeze in foreign labor, his highness said that the studies of the labor force council call for freezing the foreign labor force and concentrating on the national labor force. He said the state pays a great deal of attention to agriculture and is trying to create a skilled labor force in this field. His highness affirmed that the state, upon instructions from his majesty the king, is working to serve the homeland and the citizens.

Meanwhile, Minister of Planning Hisham Nazir stated that the fourth 5-year plan will not differ drastically from the previous plans, noting that the previous plans basic objectives were preserving the Islamic faith, enhancing defense and security, and improving manpower. He indicated that these objectives are basic and continue from one plan to another.

Bangladesh Granted $30 Million for Flood Relief
GF011421 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] SPA has learned that as soon as he heard of the floods that have struck fraternal Bangladesh, His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz ordered the transfer of $30 million to the Government of Bangladesh to assist it in offsetting expenses incurred as a result of the losses caused by the floods.

May God protect his majesty and prolong his life.

UAE

AL-KHALIJ Criticizes Closure of Fatah Offices
GF040820 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0715 GMT 4 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Ash-Shariqah, 4 Oct (WAM) — The newspaper *Al-Khalij* has criticized the Syrian Government's decision to close down the offices of the Fatah movement throughout Syria. The

paper terms the decision "a grave and totally unjustifiable act." The paper also regards this step as "flagrant interference in the internal affairs of the Palestinian resistance movement and a deliberate attempt to dominate Palestinian national decision-making." The paper stressed that normalization of Syrian-Palestinian relations is the basic responsibility of the Syrian leaders and of the command of the Palestinian resistance forces. It says this responsibility must be carried out as part of "a fraternal, democratic, and responsible dialogue and not through the closure of the offices and laying a siege around the Palestinian forces."

Concluding, the paper calls on all Palestinian resistance factions to intervene and to ask the Syrian authorities to retract the decision to close the Fatah offices since "the struggling Palestinian presence in Syria — as it is in any Arab land — affects all Arab people throughout the Arab homeland."

Briefs

Minister Departs for Morocco — Abu Dhabi, 3 Oct (WAM) — Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, left for Rabat today leading his country's delegation to the meetings of the fifth session of the ministerial council of the Arab Organization of Mineral Wealth. [Excerpt] [Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1258 GMT 3 Oct 83 GF]

Mubarak Address to U.S. House of Representatives
NC040756 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2300 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Washington, 3 Oct (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak delivered a comprehensive speech today before the members of the U.S. House of Representatives at a session called by the majority leader James Wright. In his speech, Mubarak reviewed Egyptian policy, Egyptian-U.S. relations, and Egypt's stand on the urgent problems in the Middle East. The following is the text of the speech:

Mr President, dear friends, I am very happy to be with you here today. The more we meet and discuss affairs of common concern, the more convinced I become of the value of exchanging information and views frankly and sincerely. I was happy to receive many of you in Cairo and I am looking forward to meeting those members who have not yet visited our country. I believe that the Congress has an important mission and role in strengthening the ties of friendship and cooperation among nations. It is a source of happiness that our relations are growing steadily because we are intensifying our cooperation in all domains without exception.

1. We both agree that the achievement of a peaceful settlement can only be brought about through dialogue and negotiations, and that permanent peace can only be achieved on the basis of right and justice. From this premise, Egypt supports your efforts to reactivate the peace process. As a matter of fact, Egypt was the first country to declare its support for President Reagan's peace initiative.

2. We both agree that Lebanon must return to its previous normal situation and to again become a free, independent, and sovereign state. According to this, we should both bear in mind the following goals:

a. All foreign forces must withdraw completely from Lebanese territory.

b. The Lebanese Government and legitimate institutions must be respected and supported.

c. All sects in Lebanon must immediately start measures to achieve national reconciliation so that each of them can have an equitable opportunity to participate in rebuilding their country and ruling their nation through a genuinely democratic process. Within this framework, we have been in daily contact with your administration and with the Lebanese Government and the other parties concerned.

3. Regarding Chad, both our views are similar in rejecting any foreign occupation or intervention, partition, or fragmentation of this state.

Within this framework we agree that the legitimate government in Chad must be respected and supported and that the Chadian people must be given an opportunity to build their country and to work for its progress and development. This should take place without the use or threat of force by foreign elements against Chad's territorial integrity and political independence.

4. We are utilizing the U.S. economic aid in the best way. We succeeded in eliminating delays and bureaucracy on our part. We were pleased that together we made the necessary amendments and the course now being followed is one of great efficiency. The credits that were not used have been reallocated to new projects. We are using U.S. appropriations for improving and increasing production in agriculture and industry.

We are building grain silos, power stations, and we are improving the basic structure. You are helping us in a huge project for rebuilding the water and drainage network. I am pleased at that. I depend upon you in maintaining this line by concentrating on the projects which affect the Egyptians' daily living. Hence the U.S. friendship with the Egyptians will be on a continuous basis.

5. We ask your support in dealing with Egypt on an equal footing with Israel in relation to economic and military assistance. This is a commitment made by the United States on signing the Camp David accords.

6. Some of you have raised questions connected with the relations between Egypt and Israel. There are wrong assumptions being reiterated from time to time. Some went to the extent of suggesting that Egypt violated the framework of Camp David or the peace treaty when it recalled its ambassador for consultations. Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin admitted that Egypt has implemented its commitments in accordance with the treaty in a good spirit, and you know that we are committed to peace. Peace, as you know, is not an empty word. Peace in the Middle East in particular has special significance. It is the peace that met a great welcome when the late President Anwar as-Sadat opened a new page in the history of this region beginning in 1977.

Peace with respect to Israel means recognition, normalization, and security. With respect to the Palestinians it means the recognition of their legitimate rights as a people, homeland, and national entity. With respect to the Arabs it means the elimination of threats of invasion or regional expansion at their expense and the solution of the Palestine problem.

If these rights are put together they represent a framework for peace in the Middle East and constitute a reasonable, significant, and applicable formula. Hence, all parties concerned with the Middle East problem have their role, commitments, and rights.

Israel must be persuaded to deal justly with the legitimate Palestinian rights and to cooperate with you and with us to arrive at a solution acceptable to the moderate majority of the Palestinian people.

According to our information and the views expressed by many Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and in other areas, the majority of the Palestinians are prepared for coexistence with Israel if they are certain that their national existence is not threatened.

As far as we in Egypt are concerned, you are aware of our stance. We honor our commitments in the peace treaty. We will continue to do so. We also honor our commitment toward a comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Mubarak on Israel, Palestine

NC032103 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2010 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Washington, 3 Oct (MENA) — Following his meetings at the U.S. Congress today, President Husni Mubarak stated that the Palestinian problem is the main problem in the area and that the other problems resulted from it. He said that if we will not consider and solve the Palestinian issue, neither peace nor a comprehensive settlement will be achieved.

In a statement to journalists following the meetings, President Mubarak said the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv is not a problem and wondered about all the fuss over it. President Mubarak began his statement by answering a question on his discussions in Congress. He said: I came to the United States to deliver a speech before the UN General Assembly, and then came to Washington to meet with President Reagan and U.S. officials. He said: We have exchanged views on current events and, naturally, dealt with the Middle East problem, the Lebanese crisis, the problem of Chad and Libya, the Iraqi-Iranian war, and several other problems. We also discussed bilateral relations, and I believe our views are similar.

Mubarak further said: I have come here to the House of Representatives and the Senate, whose members I have grown used to meeting whenever I visit Washington. We discussed bilateral relations, the Middle East problems, the Iraq-Iran war, the invasion of Chad, and the Palestinian problem, which is the crux of the conflict in the Middle East. We have urged our friends in the United States to go ahead with pushing forward the peace process and the Palestinian problem, because there will be neither peace nor a comprehensive settlement without solving the Palestinian issue.

Asked about the Egyptian ambassador's return to Tel Aviv, Mubarak said: The Egyptian ambassador's return is not the problem, and we have an Israeli ambassador in Egypt. President Mubarak asked about all this furor over the ambassador's return. He said: I have met with Israeli Energy Minister Moda'i and Ezer Weizman. There are many other contacts and the Israelis understand our stance. President Mubarak said the Camp David agreements do not depend only on the ambassador's return.

Asked whether he believes that the establishment of a national homeland for the Palestinians is the main problem, President Mubarak said the Palestinian problem is the main problem in the area. He added: I believe the other problems resulted from it. As long as we fail to consider the Palestinian issue and to look for a solution to it, our aims will not be fulfilled and a comprehensive settlement will not be achieved in the area. Therefore, it is the main problem that must be tackled as soon as possible. It is a mistake to wait until the Lebanese problem is soved.

Conditions for Ambassador's Return

NC040942 Paris AFP in English 0921 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 4 (AFP) — President Husni Mubarak has posed three conditions for the return of an ambassador to Tel Aviv for the first time in more than a year, Cairo newspapers reported today.

The conditions are:

—Progress in the talks on the area surrounding the port of Tabah, in the Gulf of Aqaba, which Israel holds and which Egypt claims is part of the Sinai that was returned in April 1982. This condition also includes a demand for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from around Tabah.

—A total withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon.

—A halt on the construction of new Israeli settlements in the occupied [word indistinct].

Mr Mubarak, who yesterday ended a visit to the United States, issued these conditions in a talk yesterday in Washington with the leaders of the major U.S. Jewish organizations. Those [word indistinct] concern over the chill in ties with Israel, but a participant in the talks said afterward that Mr Mubarak had voiced opposition to a return of the Egyptian ambassador under current circumstances. Egypt withdrew its ambassador to Israel in September 1982, [word indistinct] the massacres at two Palestinian camps in an area under Israeli army control.

Mubarak Sees Lebanon's Salim, Receives Message

NC040616 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2330 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Washington, 3 Oct (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak today received Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim at the Egyptian ambassador's home in Washington. Following the meeting, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Salim delivered a message from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil to President Mubarak. He said that this message includes Lebanon's views on the best way for solving the Lebanese issue and securing the withdrawal of foreign forces. The message also demonstrates the Lebanese president's full readiness to bring about national reconciliation in Lebanon.

Following the meeting, Dr Elie Salim said that he discussed with President Mubarak details of the Lebanese issue and other Arab questions. He said: President Mubarak showed considerable understanding of the situation in Lebanon. He is helping fraternal Lebanon emerge from its impasse. Regarding the current mediation efforts to solve the Lebanese problem, Dr Salim said that there are Arab and international mediation efforts to achieve a firm and lasting cease-fire in Lebanon so that the political process can start, because the Lebanese issue can be solved only through political dialogue among all the parties concerned.

Dr Salim further said: This is the course that President Amin al-Jumayyil is following, and which he had previously called for. We pin our hopes on continuing this march until Lebanon regains its unity and independence. Concerning what Lebanon expects from President Mubarak and Egypt, Dr Salim said: We expect President Mubarak and all Arab presidents and kings to show understanding of the situation in Lebanon and to help the Lebanese Government achieve Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and unity. He said that the support given Lebanon by the Arab countries can lead to a safe path.

On the Syrian stand and the attempts to persuade Syria to withdraw from Lebanon, Salim said: Contacts are continuing with Damascus to achieve this goal through Saudi Arabia to reach an agreement that ensures Syria's and Lebanon's interests.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali attended the 1-hour meeting between President Mubarak and Dr Elie Salim.

Mubarak Meets World Bank President 30 Sep

NC010654 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2305 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] Washington, 30 Sep (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak tonight received at his headquarters at the Egyptian ambassador's house in Washington the president of the World Bank. The meeting was attended by the Egyptian ministers of economy, finance, and cooperation, and Egyptian Ambassador to Washington Ashraf Ghurbal.

After the meeting, the World Bank president said the World Bank has been having a good relationship with Egypt for many years. He said: It delighted me to meet with President Mubarak for the third time — once in Cairo, another time in Washington, and again in Washington. We look forward to working with the Egyptian delegation, with whom we have been meeting since the beginning of this week, to discuss the means to expand and deepen the relations between us.

He added that Egypt is a developing state and that the World Bank is very interested in helping it, in strengthening relations, in assisting Egypt's development, and raising the Egyptian standard of living. The World Bank president noted that the purpose of today's meeting was to exchange views and to discuss the means to strengthen our cooperation. He added that other meetings are also taking place between Egyptian and World Bank working teams on a continuing basis.

He also said: As an establishment in which Egypt is participating, we should discuss with Egypt the role that the World Bank can play. There are many sectors in which we have participated and will continue to participate. We hope to be able to help in Egyptian development.

Editor Defends Continuation of Emergency Law

PM031020 Cairo Akhbar Al-Yawm in Arabic 17 Sep pp 1,8

[Chief Editor Ibrahim Sa'dah article: "Dictatorship of the Minority"]

[Excerpts] Martial law, the declaration of a state of emergency, suspension of law, and the adoption of exceptional measures all mean one thing to public opinion — that the country is living under the rule of a police state, a rule that denies a citizen all his rights, humiliates him, and denies him participation in government by any means.

Under such abnormal conditions the people become helpless, for it is the police state that rules, takes the decisions, does as it wishes, suppresses opposition, rewards the sycophant, tortures the critic, and banishes the doubter. Such is the lot of the peoples who are destined to live under martial law and totalitarian regimes. They are ruled in accordance with exceptional law; the ruler has all the powers, and the people is denied all rights that the world knows as human rights. The most prominent example of such conditions is provided by the communist societies in eastern Europe where the individual is of no value and of no consequence. He is merely a number, a name, or a cog which, if it becomes faulty, is soon replaced by another so that the wheel will goin turning smoothly and without hindrance.

Egypt too does apply an Emergency Law which is restricted to 1 year and which is renewable only for considerations which the People's Assembly might find essential and necessary for the protection of the internal front. But there is a vast difference between Egypt and the communist and noncommunist societies in which the individual is of no value and the citizen has no respect. For purely security reasons Egypt has adopted an exceptional law known as the Emergency Law. Two years ago Egypt faced the biggest challenge in its long history when extremist groups that rejected logic and dialogue took up arms and threatened Egypt's peace and security in an unprecedented manner. At that time voices were raised accusing the security organs of carelessness, lack of vigilance, and laxity, as well as of ignoring the loopholes through which extremists could infiltrate in order to impose their own logic and drag the country to the edge of the abyss which only God saved us from. The security authorities then came to believe that prevention is better than cure, that is to say, taking precautions against terror before it occurs and resisting violence before it breaks out, thus foiling any sabotage plan before it is implemented. It was impossible to realize such precautions without the Emergency Law which the authorities asked the People's Assembly to approve it so that it might be applied for a specific period of time, renewable only with the express approval of the people's parliamentary representatives. The People's Assembly did approve the law and it was extended for a second year which is now about to expire as the month of October approaches.

The question now is: "What have been the side effects on the people during the past 2 years that the law has been in force?" In other words, what sufferings did the Egyptian people endure as a result of the Emergency Law which might justify the campaign being waged by some people demanding its abrogation or expressing apprehension as regards its consequences?

I am not saying this in defense of any exceptional law, but the facts of the situation in which we all live prove that there is absolutely no relation between the concept of the emergency laws which we hear about in the totalitarian societies and the law being applied in our country. We have not heard that political parties have been banned, opposition political activities suspended, opposition papers suppressed, or opposition views silenced.

We have heard of nothing like this nor have we felt it. Never before has there been such public political freedom as there is today. The Egyptian opposition, which for long and bitter years was denied freedom, never before enjoyed the freedom it is enjoying today. The oppositionists themselves admit this fact

more than the supporters. I will not be going too far if I say that even among the opposition there are those who cannot believe that a government, which is the target of such attacks by the opposition which casts doubts on its abilitities and achievements, could allow such criticism and slander and such attacks on every decision it takes, everything it accomplishes, and every plan it is anxious to implement.

For many years we lived ostensibly without exceptional laws but during which we actually suffered the worst types of coercion, terror, and torture. But when we publicly adopted the Emergency Law no citizen suffered, felt pressure, was denied his rights, had his views suppressed, or was banned from political activity in opposing the ruler and the Emergency Law itself. Every time voices are raised demanding that the law should not be renewed, denouncing it, or exaggerating its negative effects and restrictions, the government waives its right to silence such opposition. Rather, it hastens to reaffirm time and again the limits to which the law is applied and that it does not restrict the freedom of the citizen, his political activity, and his public rejection of any decision taken by the government or any policy it advocates. The limits of this provisional law, as the government often emphasized, do not go beyond protecting the internal front against terror, extremism, and conspiracies.

It is wrong to imagine that in the present relative stability Egypt is now enjoying the country has become immune to conspiracies, schemes, and internal and external terror. The terror and sabotage gangs which were recently discovered by the security organs will maybe provide an opportunity for those who oppose for the sake of opposition to revise their calculations and reconsider their stand in the light of the dangers that could have threatened our country had not the Egyptian security organs been able to foil all those conspiracies and prevent their implementation.

When the security organs acted at the appropriate time and arrested the ringleaders of those terrorist conspiracies this action was not shrouded with secrecy. Rather, the authorities immediately announced the discovery of the plots one after another, revealing their objectives, the names involved, the sources of finance, and the brains behind them. The authorities put all these matters before the prosecution in order to investigate them and take legal proceedings. Why do some people have no scruples about casting doubts on these extremely serious cases, dismiss them, and even accuse the security authorities of concocting them with the aim of persuading the People's Assembly to approve the extension of the Emergency Law for a third year? The papers have published many details regarding these cases which included confessions by the suspects, incriminating evidence, and pictures of weapons, explosives, bombs, and rockets seized with the suspects before they could use them against the people at zero hour.

The security and safety of the country is unimportant to some people. All they care for is that the government should submit to their views and should not ask for the extension of the Emergency Law regardless of the reasons and justifications it may have and to whatever extent conspiracies and schemes may require such a step. This is despite the fact that the government has not yet asked for such actions and the People's Assembly has not yet met in its new session and not one single official said anything to indicate that the government intends to make such a request to the People's Assembly.

Antiaircraft Missile To Be Tested 5 October

NC030600 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 2 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Cairo, 2 Oct (MENA) — The final test to launch the first Egyptian antiaircraft missile will be carried out on Wednesday [5 Oct]. The test will be witnessed by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din; Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; and a large number of high-ranking officials and Armed Forces officers.

In its 3 October issue, the newspaper *May* says that the preliminary tests carried out on the missile proved its efficiency. It adds that the missile was designed by Egyptian experts, that it has been named 'Ayn as-Saqr [eagle's eye] and that it can be used easily because it is comparatively light.

Search Begins for Italian Ship Believed Sunk

NC030749 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0720 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 3 Oct (MENA) — Egyptian Navy search and rescue units have begun a search for an Italian ship believed to have sunk following a collision with a Soviet ship in the Mediterranean. The Cairo newspaper *Al-Ahram* reports today that Egypt received a message from Germany to rescue the ship. The message asked the rescue centers in Egypt and New York [as received] to send any assistance to the ship. The newspaper reports that the scene of the incident has been located. It is 300 km west from the limits of Egypt's responsibility and is 30 km north of Banghazi, Libya. According to reports, the incident occurred in an area called Ra's As-Sad near the Egyptian-Libyan border when a Soviet ship collided with an Italian ship called *Gabriella. Fire broke out on board the Italian ship, which then* sank. Three crew members of the Italian ship were killed.

General Command Issues Communique No 1,236

JN031737 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,236 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 3 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With high efficiency and capability our Armed Forces are continuing their valiant activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the clique of evil and expansion. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Throughout today our brave Air Force pilots, who do not fear difficulties, continued their successful attacks and bold raids against the enemy positions and troop concentrations in the central sector of the battlefield, scoring accurate and effective hits and inflicting large losses in men and equipment on the enemy forces. Fires and columns of smoke covered the areas where the enemy targets were hit. All our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. The day before yesterday our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the area facing Panjwin in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing 34, destroying 2 vehicles and 2 infantry positions, and hitting 2 tanks and 3 excavators. Yesterday one enemy observation post was destroyed and its occupants killed in the same sector.

3. A valiant force belonging to our units raided the enemy's forward positions in the area east of Basra. It clashed with the enemy troops and managed to kill five and wound others. The enemy also sustained one killed elsewhere in the same sector.

4. One was killed in the central sector of the battlefield.

5. Today the criminal Khomeynite clique shelled the village of Khurmal, which belongs to Halabjah, with artillery. The shelling caused damage to some civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 October 1983

WAKH Previews Ramadan's Official Visit to UK

GF031030 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0715 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 3 Oct (WAKH) — British-Iraqi relations will enter a new phase of development this month following the visit to England later this week by the Iraqi first deputy prime minister, Taha Yasin Ramadan.

An authoritative Iraqi source told the WAKH correspondent in Baghdad that the talks which Ramadan will hold with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher will make current relations mushroom in the future. Pointing out that this visit is the first of its kind to be undertaken by an Iraqi senior official in many years, the source indicated that this visit is regarded as new proof of the desire of both countries to develop relations.

The source noted that the visit of the first deputy prime minister is scheduled to focus on bilateral relations and areas of cooperation in the fields of trade, commerce, and oil. It will also focus on the situation in the region, especially the Iraqi-Iranian war, as well as the role of Britain and the EEC in crystalyzing an international position that will pressure the rulers of Tehran into accepting the international calls for ending this war, which has entered its fourth year, and to solve the pending issues peacefully.

Ramadan to Austria, UK

JN030954 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0935 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Oct (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, this morning left for Vienna at the head of a delegation on a visit to Austria and later to the United Kingdom at the official invitation of both governments.

In a predeparture statement to INA, Ramadan said that the visits are within the framework of the economic and technical cooperation which exists between Iraq and both Austria and the United Kingdom. He added that the joint committees on cooperation between Iraq and both Austria and the United Kingdom will hold meetings during the visits to prepare for the 1984 program of cooperation.

He added that discussions will focus on the state of affairs in the region, particularly the Iraqi-Iranian war, and that he will acquaint the two countries' officials with the developments of this war and the dangers it poses to world peace and stability.

The delegation accompanying Taha Yasin Ramadan comprises Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi; and officials from the trade and oil ministries.

Ramadan Receives Korean Construction Minister

JN031054 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Oct (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received Kim Chongho, construction minister of the Republic of Korea here this morning. During the meeting relations of cooperation between Iraq and Korea and the means to promote them to serve the common interests of both countries were reviewed.

Ramadan affirmed Iraq's concern over and determination to continue implementing construction development plans under all circumstances, including those of the aggressive war which is being waged by the Iranian regime.

The Korean minister conveyed to Ramadan the desire of the Korean Government and companies to develop and expand cooperation with Iraq, particularly to implement Iraq's development projects which serve the interests of both countries and peoples.

Meeting With Counterpart

JN031319 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1250 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Te.] Baghdad, 3 Oct (INA) — Iraqi Housing and Reconstruction Minister Muhammad Husayn Fadil met here today with Kim Chong-ho, construction minister of the Republic of Korea.

During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral relations, the means of strengthening and developing them, and the projects being implemented by the Korean companies in Iraq.

The Iraqi minister emphasized Iraq's desire to expand and develop cooperation with South Korea in various spheres, particularly the technical, scientific, housing, and construction spheres.

The Korean minister expressed his country's concern and desire to expand cooperation and increase the contribution of the Korean companies to the implementation of the current development projects in Iraq.

Transportation Minister Returns From France

JN012038 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Oct (INA) — 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd ar-Rahim, Iraqi minister of transportation and communications, returned here this evening after a 4-day official visit to France. In a statement to INA, the minister said that during his visit he signed an agreement with the French Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications for joint cooperation in the field of posts and telecommunications. He also added that the agreement provides for the exchange of experts and training in the field of telecommunications along with the implementation of the agreements that were concluded with the French companies operating in such fields in Iraq.

'Abd ar-Rahim also pointed out that during his visit to the French capital, he held meetings with the French minister of maritime affairs and a number of officials in the fields of transportation and railways and discussed with them issues relating to the Iraqi fleet and the facilities being offered by the French ports.

He also added that he had discussed with the French officials the agreements concluded between the two sides to provide Iraq with trucks, locomotives, and passenger cars as well as the agreements concluded between the two countries in the fields of land and air transportation.

Youth Minister Returns From PRC; Protocol Signed

JN021110 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 2 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Oct (INA) — Iraqi Youth Minister Ahmad Husayn and his accompanying delegation returned here last night from Beijing after a visit of several days to the PRC. During the visit, a protocol for youth and sports cooperation was signed with the Chinese Physical Culture and Sports Commission to expand cooperation between the Iraqi and PRC sports teams and institutions in the sports and youth spheres.

Saddam Husayn Congratulates PRC President

JN011845 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has sent the following cable of congratulations to PRC President Li Xiannian on the PRC's national day:

His Excellency PRC President Li Xiannian, we have the pleasure to send you in my name and on behalf of Iraq our congratulations and good wishes on the occasion of your country's national celebrations, wishing you good health and progress and prosperity for your friendly people.

We seize this opportunity to assert our concern about continuing and developing the existing friendly and cooperation relations between our two countries in all spheres in the service of the two friendly peoples. We are confident that our joint efforts to guarantee security and cooperation will be strengthened in the service of world peace. We wish development and prosperity for your country.

Security Arrangements Committee Issues Statement

NC301428 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] The Security Arrangements Committee meeting ended a short while ago. The following statement was then issued.

The committee held a meeting today, discussed the security developments, and worked to tackle them in a manner that will ensure continuity and the preservation of the cease-fire. As a result of the meeting the following was decided.

1. Opening the coastal road from the southern direction and the roads leading to Beirut International Airport, and removing the barriers from them to facilitate the citizens' movement.

2. Agreeing to exchange the detained persons by the various parties. Work toward the implementation of this has been started.

3. Summoning a team of the International Committee of the Red Cross to start the work of removing the bodies of victims from the mountain area.

4. Emphasizing that all works of fortifications on all axes be halted.

Al-Wazzan on Security Committee

NC301454 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan today expressed satisfaction with the results reached by the Security Committee for consolidating the cease-fire. He described its activities as positive and encouraging. The committee is discussing a number of matters including the opening of roads, exchanging kidnapped persons, and solving the problems of the evacuees and the occupation of houses. Prime Minister al-Wazzan reiterated that the topic of the dialogue committee will be crystallized in the next 2 days with regard to fixing the venue and the time of the dialogue committee meeting.

Committee Discusses Detainees' Release

NC031840 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] During its fifth meeting today, the Security Arrangements Committee continued to deal with the security situation and to study the topics on its agenda. No statement was issued about today's meeting. However, security sources said the conferees tackled the subjects they had raised in previous meetings. The sources said a new attempt will be made by the International Red Cross tomorrow to continue evacuation of the corpses of victims from the villages where they fell. All the parties promised to cooperate with the international organization. With regard to the issue of the detainees, it became clear to the committee — according to the same sources — that some detainees have been exchanged between the parties directly concerned, and the committee took note of this. During its consideration of this subject, the Security Arrangements Committee summoned Commissioner General Hafiz Shahadah, member of the committee entrusted with following up the case of the detainees and missing, which is chaired by former Minister Sami Yunis. The committee discussed with him the stages covered by that committee. Commissioner Shahadah explained what has been achieved by the committee, whose task includes the kidnapped from the beginning of 1982 up to the start of the mountain war. It was decided that this committee would continue its work as usual, while the Security Arrangements Committee would deal with the question of the detainees resulting from the mountain war.

The committee also dealt with the incidents that took place between the Lebanese Army positions in Qasqas and Shatila and the positions of the armed elements in the southern suburb. It was possible to end these clashes this afternoon. The committee also dealt with the question of the roads, especially the Khaldah-Sidon coastal road. It was possible to resolve the problems that appeared yesterday and led to the closure of the road for some time. Normal traffic has been restored on this road. It has been learned that the committee will hold its sixth meeting at 1100 tomorrow.

Cabinet Meets; Al-Hariri Confers With Officials

NC031312 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Dispatch by Correspondent Joe Sa'adah at the Presidential Palace — live or recorded]

[Text] At 1300 the Cabinet met in an extraordinary session called for by President al-Jumayyil. The session is being attended by Army Commander General Ibrahim Tannus and Army Chief of Staff Major General Nadim al-Hakim to discuss the dimensions of the partition step taken 2 days ago in Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh and the ensuing call to the Lebanese Army personnel to assemble in Hammana and to rebel against the Army Command's orders. Failing to confront these two steps will open the way for perpetuating the occupations and partitioning of Lebanon thus turning it into a group of protectorates.

The Cabinet is expected to adopt radical measures to confront this secessionist trend in light of the firm convictions and principles unanimously declared by the Lebanese and in light of reported and expected international stances and reaction. President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister al-Wazzan met with the Army commander, the Army chief of staff, and the commander of the Jabal Lubnan military area to discuss the current situation, particularly the new developments at the military level.

Meanwhile, Dr Wadi' Haddad is still meeting with Rafiq al-Hariri to discuss the outcome of the Saudi mediation in Syria to overcome several obstacles including the deployment of UN observers to supervise the implementation of the cease-fire. Rafiq al-Hariri arrived in Lebanon this morning from Syria where he had met with Syrian officials and with several leaders of the National Salvation Front.

Cabinet Issues Statement

NC031519 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Dispatch by correspondent Joe Sa'adah from Presidential Palace in Beirut on 3 October — recorded]

[Text] In its extraordinary session, which it held within the framework of its open sessions, the Cabinet today rejected whatever could damage the unity of the national and constitutional institutions, especially the Lebanese Army. It decided to prevent any actions from placing a fait accompli of any kind or from any party before the dialogue conference. The Cabinet decided to work quickly and seriously to protect the march toward the restoration of the unity of the Lebanese — people and land. At the conclusion of the Cabinet session today, the following statement was issued:

The Cabinet resumed its open sessions at noon today, Monday. It devoted its meeting to discussing the steps already covered in the implementation of the cease-fire agreement, including the talks the foreign minister is holding at the United Nations. The Cabinet also studied the necessary means to bring about the success of the national dialogue. Army Commander General Tannus and Chief of Staff Brigadier General Hakim attended part of the meeting.

At the beginning of the session, his excellency the president of the republic said the date of the start of the dialogue has not yet been set, because the preparatory talks that the mediators are holding have not overcome the new difficulties that arose over the selection of a substitute venue for the meeting. The state had welcomed the holding of the first meeting in Saudi Arabia, in accordance with the proposal Lebanon accepted on 25 September. The Cabinet urged his excellency the president to maintain the idea of holding the meeting in Saudi Arabia in appreciation for what the Kingdom has done and is doing to bring about the success of the peaceful efforts.

The Cabinet also underlined the need for solidarity so some of the steps that have recently been taken will have no negative effect on the talks being undertaken by the mediators and on the atmosphere the authority is preparing to ensure the success of the dialogue, which needs to reach practical results that would safeguard Lebanon's unity and independence, and which would lead to the imposition of the state's sovereignty and the restoration of security and peace to all Lebanese territory.

His excellency the president then declared that he may find himself compelled to set the date and place for holding the dialogue in the light of his direct consultations so he can address the final invitations as soon as possible. His excellency informed the Cabinet of the many proposals that were raised during his contacts not only concerning the venue of the meeting but also concerning the way to provide the suitable basis for the conduct of the discussions in the best manner. In this context, the Cabinet discussed the announcement made by Walid Junblatt on Saturday and its effect on the course of the dialogue and its results. His excellency the president said: What concerns the state, following the developments on Saturday and Sunday, are the following matters:

1. Rejecting anything that could damage the unity of the national and constitutional institutions, especially in the present circumstances, the Lebanese Army, which constitutes the greatest guarantee for maintaining Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity. The Army has made sacrifices that proved its ability to get rid of the illegal military forces that challenge the legitimacy, to protect the homeland against occupations, and to shoulder the burden of the mission of liberation.

2. Preventing any action that would place a fait accompli of any kind or from any party before the dialogue conference, as that would undermine the freedom of the other parties to conduct a joint democratic discussion about the principles of Lebanon's future and about the quick practical solutions that represent the Lebanese adherance to the principles of their existence and democratic constitutional system. This will prevent the dialogue itself and the parties to the dialogue from becoming prisoners of unilaterally imposed military or administrative situations of a partitionist nature.

3. Working quickly and seriously to protect the march toward the restoration of the unity of the Lebanese — people and land. There should be no actions by any side that could lead to the resumption of military operations, to the creation of conditions that could prevent the return of the evacuees to their houses and villages, or to the frustration of the good efforts undertaken by the mediators to narrow the views in form and substance.

His excellency the president informed the Cabinet about the contacts he conducted personally and in conjunction with the prime minister, especially the contacts with Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad, the spiritual leaders concerned with the developments, and some of the political personalities invited to take part in the dialogue, foremost of whom are former Presidents Camille Sham'un and Sulayman Franjiyah.

The Cabinet heard a report submitted by the Army Command about the military situation. It took note of the measures the Command has taken.

The Cabinet also took note of the results of the work of the Security Committee established in accordance with the cease-fire agreement. It expressed satisfaction regarding what has been accomplished until now, especially the reopening of Beirut International Airport. The Cabinet asked that faster and greater efforts be made with regard to the other tasks,especially reopening of roads and providing the maximum guarantees for the safety of the citizens and the restoration of normal civilian life.

The Cabinet, in conclusion, discussed the efforts exerted to assist the evacuees, to bring about the release of detainees, and to send food and medical supplies to the besieged towns and villages. It adopted a series of measures and decisions, all stemming from the need to return the evacuees to their homes and to rebuild the destroyed villages in order to restore Lebanon to its special status.

The Cabinet rejected all the signs and indications that could lead to partition or result in conditions that could change the features of the joint national life in the mountain.

Ambassador at-Turk Receives Foreign Envoys 3 Oct
NC030942 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Today's diplomatic activity at the Foreign Ministry is focused on local political and security developments in light of Junblatt's recent step to establish a civilian administration in the mountain. Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Fu'ad at-Turk received at 0930 today French ambassador Fernand Wibeaux to review the current political developments. After the meeting, Ambassador Wibeaux said: I was summoned by Secretary General Ambassador at-Turk who wished to talk with me about the threat of partition. He asked me to communicate this to my government and this is what I am going to do. He added: As is known, France supports Lebanon's unity and legitimate authority.

Ambassador at-Turk is due to meet at 1100 with the British charge d'affaires for the same purpose. Later Ambassador at-Turk will receive Soviet Charge d'Affaires Yuriy Suslikov, Italian Ambassador Franco Ottieri, and U.S. Ambassador Robert Dillon. At 1600, Ambassador at-Turk will receive the representatives of Arab missions in Lebanon.

Army Command on Hammana Barracks Events
NC031939 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Communique issued by Army Command on 3 October]

[Text] On 2 October 1983, some military personnel gathered in the Hammana Barracks and deliberated on the security situation. One of them delivered a statement that was contrary to truth and reality, thus violating military laws and instructions. The Army Command has referred this case to the pertinent authorities so they can carry out the legal investigations according to the laws.

Saudi Mediator Meets Sham'un, Franjiyah, Karami
NC031803 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri flew by military helicopter to Ihdin, where he held a 1 1/2-hour meeting with [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah. The discussion dealt with the various developments and the Saudi efforts aimed at starting the dialogue among the Lebanese parties. The Saudi mediator then went to Tripoli, where he held a meeting with [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami for the same purpose. After the meeting, Al-Hariri said:

[Begin recording] These meetings are part of the Saudi initiative, which resulted in the cease-fire agreement and the agreement to begin a national dialogue. The meetings we held today with His Excellency President Sham'un, His Excellency President Sulayman Franjiyah, and Prime Minister Rashid Karami are aimed at speeding up the start of the reconciliation meetings, and we hope this will take place as soon as possible. Good intentions exist among all to begin the dialogue immediately.

[Unidentified reporter] Has a date been set for the national dialogue conference?

[Al-Hariri] Not yet. [end recording]

Prime Minister Karami then made a statement in which he said:

[Begin recording] In the light of the agreement on a cease-fire and on the start of national dialogue, it was necessary to hold consultations on the details and measures for such a meeting and its venue, as well as on the subjects that will be discussed. It is beneficial and necessary for any dialogue that will take place to succeed, because we all realize the results that could emerge from a lack of agreement. You will remember that I was one of those who demanded the establishment of a preparatory committee to draw up the agenda and define as much as possible the position toward the subjects that will be raised. I even went further and suggested that each party should be approached separately, and after listening to the various opinions, a plan would be drafted and discussed. Agreement in the light of such a plan would be easier and quicker. [end recording]

Al-Hariri met with [former] President Camille Sham'un this morning and discussed with him for 1 hour the situation in Lebanon and the contacts being held to start the national dialogue. Al-Hariri briefed President Sham'un on the Saudi mediator's meeting with Walid Junblatt in Damascus yesterday evening.

Junblatt Orders Administration of Christian Assets
NC031254 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt has ordered that the properties of the Christians in Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh be placed at the disposal of the civil administration council he formed 2 days ago. Information received by the Voice of Lebanon indicates that the civil administration council will be entrusted with the responsibility of utilizing the private and public properties and with spending its revenues on essential projects, according to the requirements of the Druze canton. Junblatt was quoted as saying that he will not allow anyone to behave as he wishes and that the revenues of the properties will be used to develop communications and general services and to strengthen the popular army he has formed.

Ash-Shuf Civil Administration Explained
NC040902 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] A responsible source in the popular committee of the civil administration in Ash-Shuf has said that the principal aim of the initiative [forming the civil administration] is to urge the government to make it possible for the official departments to resume their role [in serving] the sons of the mountain. It also aims at reactivating the paralyzed departments and consolidating them to enable them to carry out their duties. The source explained that the hostile campaign against the civil administration that is being waged by the government is aimed at casting doubt on the administration's national aims among various groups of people

so as to undermine their national steadfastness, and to spread confusion and insecurity and cause an economic blockade. The source has affirmed that the attempt at accusing us of partition only indicates that the fascist forces are seeking to undermine the political results under which the cease-fire was reached. Yesterday [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami wondered why Junblatt's declaration is being given various interpretations since the National Salvation Front's program is aimed at unifying the country and preventing its partition. He added: What Junblatt had announced is no more than the setting up of a committee that will take care of and attend to the comfort of the citizens in the mountain in the wake of the great catastrophe that has befallen them.

Phalangists Issue Statement on Junblatt Move

NC031907 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Statement issued by the Lebanese Forces Command Council on 3 October]

[Text] The Lebanese Forces Command Council held its weekly meeting as its headquarters under Fadi Afram and in the presence of the members. The conferees studies a detailed report on the current situation, particularly the background of the partition plan declared by Walid Junblatt to establish a civilian autonomous administration [idarah madaniyah dhatiyah] in the areas controlled by the Junblatt-Palestinian groups. In this respect, the Lebanese Forces Command Council announces the following:

1. The Lebanese Forces consider the declaration of the civilian autonomous administration in the mountain by Walid Junblatt to be an obvious partition plan that is a Druze cover trying to conceal communist aims. The complete strategy behind this plan is to enable communist organizations and elements infiltrating the Progressive Socialist Party to take control of a specific area so that it will be a springboard for subversive and terrorist acts against the official establishments, the Multinational Force, and the embassies accredited to Beirut.

2. This civilian autonomous administration will open the way for Syria to continue implemeting its plan aimed at completely dominating Lebanon, its people, and constitutional institutions.

3. This civilian autonomous administration will serve the Soviet Union's goals of putting an end to the U.S. influence in the Middle East — beginning with Lebanon — and subsequently achieving the aims of local communists, the Syrian regional goals, and the Soviet Union's aims. The interest of this trio is on destroying Lebanon. The Soviet-Syrian objection to the dispatch of UN observers to Lebanon reaffirms that there is a coordination between Damascus and Moscow over Lebanon.

4. The Lebanese Forces appeal to foreign countries, especially the U.S. Administration, not to deal with this painful status quo on the basis that it is a fait accompli or a prelude to similar actions. The Lebanese Forces call on the United States to abandon the idea that Syria has a right to have a say or to interfere in Lebanon's domestic affairs.

5. The Lebanese Forces remind domestic and international public opinion that their presence in a number of Lebanese areas was and still is aimed at preventing the fragmentation of the homeland. Had it not been for the presence of the Lebanese Forces in parts of 'Alayh and the Ash-Shuf, these areas would not have been saved from the Junblatt civilian administration.

6. The Lebanese Forces strongly reject Junblatt's partition step and its inherent dangers to Lebanon's future, and announce that they still adhere to their basic principles: full liberation of the homeland, supporting the legitimate government, and building a modern state on the basis of civilized democracy and plurality. On this occasion, the Lebanese Forces urge the national leaderships to cooperate with them to foil Walid Junblatt's partition scheme.

Qulaylat Reviews National Goals on Soviet TV

NC030800 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement- Al-Murabitun has said that the Al-Murabitun movement will continue their struggle for achieving their goals, the most prominent of which are the establishment of a democratic state on all the Lebanese territory, territorial integrity, and the people's unity.

Brother Qulaylat was speaking during a Soviet television interview at the outset of which he answered a question about the current situation in Lebanon. He said that the prevailing situation, the military operations, and the political conflict, resulted from the Lebanese domestic circumstances caused by the Phalange Party's control of the state's institutions preventing the establishment of a democratic state that reflected a national balance. The other factor is a foreign one represented in the continued Israeli military occupation.

On the goals of the movement's current political struggle, Brother Qulaylat said: In our movement we constantly uphold this struggle for achieving our goals. These include: the establishment of a national democratic state in all Lebanese territory, territorial integrity, and people's unity; ending the Israeli occupation from all Lebanon, beginning from the south; preventing all forms of U.S. political, economic, and military interference. Brother Qulaylat believed that the Palestine question has been continuously falling behind since 4 June 1982 and since the Palestinians departure from Beirut. He expressed the movement's fear for the future of the Palestine question.

Shaykhani Says Press Censorship To Continue

NC021047 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 Oct 83

[Text] Information and Justice Minister Roger Shaykhani has affirmed that the national dialogue cannot fail. He ruled out the possibility of reaching a deadlock in this dialogue. In an interview with the magazine *Monday Morning* that will be published tomorrow, Minister Shaykhani said the greatest achievement of the present regime was the establishment of a unified and effec-

tive Army, which proved itself and consolidated Lebanese democracy by remaining under the political authority. The information minister said press censorship will continue as long as the homeland is in danger. He added that the official information media is not partial except to Lebanon.

VOL Reports Security Situation 4 October

NC040602 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] Intermittent bursts of gunfire continued to be heard up to this morning on the axes of the southern suburbs of Beirut. There have been attacks on the Lebanese Army in that area to which the Army returned fire with the appropriate weapons. During the past hours about 300 members of the Al-Musawi group entered the same suburb and joined the elements that have been attacking the Lebanese Army. A report from Al-Biqa' indicates that Syrian and Israeli forces have exchanged bursts of gunfire on the 'Ammiq, al-Qir'awn and [word indistinct] axis for about 90 minutes.

Israelis Attacked in South

NC040702 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] In the south two bombs exploded in the Sidon area. They were directed at an Israeli patrol. The two incidents did not cause any casualties. In Tyre bursts of gunfire were heard around 2200. This was preceded by the explosion of a car which resulted in the wounding of two Israeli soldiers.

Israelis, Syrians Shell Al-Biqa'

NC040646 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] In the western Al-Biqa' area there were artillery exchanges for some time yesterday evening between the Syrian and Israeli forces on a number of axes. The shelling exchanges included the axes of Kamid al-Lawz, Baydar al-'Adas, as-Sultan Ya'qub, Jubb Jannin and Ghazzah. The shelling was accompanied by the firing of several flares. The Israeli and Syrian sources have not referred to this shelling which was confirmed by local and foreign newsmen.

IDF Crosses Al-Awwali Defense Line 3 October

NC031035 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Three Israeli tanks and 10 armored vehicles this morning crossed the defense line on the Al-Awwali river and proceeded up to the Al-Jiyah power station. Up to this hour, the vehicles are still in the Ar-Rumaylah-al-Jiyah area. The Israeli forces had moved hundreds of sandbags with concrete mixers toward the Al-Awwali bridge.

The U.S. battleship *New Jersey* was seen this morning anchoring opposite the Az-Zahrani oil refinery and the Tapline Company's installations. Beside it there are four large warships. Intensive helicopter movement was also observed moving in the direction of Beirut and then toward the battleship which has been anchored for about 1 week opposite the Az-Zahrani area.

Israel Reportedly Building South Lebanon Airport

NC011254 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] In the south, a security source reported that the Israeli forces in the Al-Khiyam area are about to finish building an airport, which they began preparing several months ago. These forces were seen asphalting one of the two runways which will be used for the landing of aircraft. The source said that the length of the runway is 1,000 meters. It is noteworthy that Israel had confiscated about 3 square kilometers of land to build the airport.

CPSU Official Receives Ambassador to USSR
JN031520 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Moscow, 3 Oct (SANA) — Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, received here this afternoon Syrian Ambassador in Moscow Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi. During the meeting, the talks revolved around relations between the two friendly countries in the various fields. Brutents praised the prominent political role which Syria is playing in the face of the conspiracies being concocted by U.S. imperialism and world Zionism to spread political and military hegemony over the Arab region.

Speeches on USSR Friendship Anniversary Reported
JN030804 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — The Syrian-USSR Friendship Society held a speech rally here last night on the occasion of the third anniversary of the signing of the friendship and cooperation agreement between Syria and the USSR.

Comrade Ya'qub Kiru, member of the Syrian-USSR Friendship Society's Executive Bureau, affirmed in his speech that the friendship agreement is an important event in the history of the Syrian and USSR people. He praised the USSR stands in support of the just Arab struggle and for regaining the usurped Arab rights. He also affirmed Syria's determination under President Hafiz al-Asad to repel the invaders and foil the agreement of humiliation and shame which the United States and Israel are trying to impose on Lebanon. He held U.S. imperialism and Israel responsible for exploding situation in the Arab region.

CPSU Central Committee Member Saidovich Saidov, who is currently visting Syria, spoke highly of the steadfast stand of the Syrian people under comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, who are courageously and honorably opposing U.S.-Israeli designs which aim at imposing hegemony over the Arab people.

USSR Transportation Delegation Winds Up Visit
JN031402 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] The USSR deputy transport construction minister and his delegation left Damascus today after a visit of more than a week. During the visit, the USSR delegation held talks with Transportation Ministry officials on strengthening and developing relations in the scientific and technical spheres. A protocol was also signed between Syria and the USSR to implement and complete the railway network in Syria.

Romanian Communist Party Delegation Arrives
JN031920 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] A Romanian Communist Party delegation, headed by Iosif Banc, Political Executive Committee member and secretary of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee, arrived in Damascus today on a visit to Syria at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command. Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, a number of the party's National Command members, the Romanian charge d'affaires in Damascus, and a number of the party's comrades received the Romanian delegation at Damascus airport.

Lebanon's Junblatt Leave Damascus for Rome, Paris
JN031244 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, left Damascus for Athens this morning from where he will leave for Rome and Paris. Junblatt will hold talks with the Greek and Italian prime ministers and with Claude Cheysson, French external relations minister. Walid Junblatt, who is accompanied by Rafiq al-Hariri, assistant to Saudi Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, will also meet in Paris with Lebanese deputy Raymond Iddih, who has been chosen to participate in the national conference on Lebanon's future, as a representative of the moderate Christians.

Damascus Radio on U.S. Role, Policy in Region
JN011519 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Through 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Syria has called for the withdrawal of the Multinational Force from Lebanon along with the withdrawal of the Israeli forces of invasion. This call has aroused the concern of all those who are interested in the Middle East situation, especially since it has come after the participation of the U.S. forces, which are part of the Multinational Force, in the fighting that was raging among the Lebanese. This call also comes at a time when the U.S. Congress, represented by the Senate and the House of Representatives, approved a plan allowing U.S. forces to stay in Lebanon for a period of 18 months.

Yesterday, Ar'iel Sharon, former Israeli war minister and present member of the Israeli Cabinet, made a statement to the French newspaper *Le Figaro* in which he clearly explained the nature of the role played by the Multinational Force in Lebanon and the role that Israel has played during its invasion of Lebanon within the framework of the current U.S. strategy in the region and the world. Sharon has said that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon — an invasion which he calls Safety for Galilee —has given strategic support for NATO in Lebanon.

The establishment of a military base for NATO in Lebanon is not in the interest of Lebanon, the Arabs, or in the interest of security and stability in the Middle East which experiences complicated circumstances and in which many interests of groups and states cross one another —states which see in a NATO military presence in Lebanon a disruption of the required balance in the region and an involvement of Lebanon in the international conflicts. The Arabs who are suffering from the dangers of Israeli

expansion, which is militarily, politically, and economically supported by the United States, believe that the change of the Multinational Force into a military extension and presence for NATO in the Middle East is a threat to Lebanon's security and the stability in the region; a supporting factor for Israel's aggressive policy which threatens the security, peace, and sovereignty of the region's states, and a continuous interference in domestic Lebanese affairs. This can be proved by the fact that the guns of the U.S. fleet did not move when the Israeli forces entered Lebanon to invade and destroy it, and when these forces besieged Beirut, cut off the power, water, and food supplies from its citizens, and shelled them from sea, land, and air —a shelling whose intensity was unprecedented even during the battles of World War II. These guns, however, moved to work in Lebanon and to interfere in domestic Lebanese affairs and in the conflict among the various Lebanese factions.

Despite the fact that the United States has denounced the Israeli invasion of Lebanon at the UN Security Council, and voted alongside the unanimity at the UN Security Council in favor of resolutions calling for Israel's immediate and unconditional withdrawal from all the Lebanese territories, the United States did not move its forces to support these resolutions. In fact, it did not put any form of pressure on Israel to force it to implement the UN Security Council resolution. On the contrary, the United States has increased its military aid to Israel, revived the memorandum of strategic cooperation with Israel which goes back to 1981, and put strong pressure on the Lebanese side in order to sign an agreement in May 1983 —an agreement which would affect Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and which made large parts of the Lebanese territories an extension to Israel's security, control, and military presence.

Among the foundations on which the Zionist entity was established [as heard] is that Lebanon must not be a base for colonialism or a path that leads to the Arab Countries, that any U.S., NATO, or Israeli military presence constitutes a danger against Lebanon and the region and directly affects the basis which an independent Lebanon cannot exist without, and that any solution to the Lebanese crisis cannot be achieved except through a national Lebanese solution —a solution that springs from Lebanon's national interests and the characteristics of its entity and existence, and from a national Lebanese unanimity. A national Lebanese unanimity cannot be achieved on the basis of a U.S.-Israeli agreement which is imposed on Lebanon, on the basis of a NATO military presence of any form, or on the basis of an Israeli presence on its territory. The first condition for a solution to the Lebanese crisis lies in the evacuation of the Israeli forces of invasion from all the Lebanese territories and the evacuation of NATO forces that have interfered and are still interfering in domestic Lebanese affairs. Using the presence of the Syrian forces as a pretext —the forces that entered Lebanon at a Lebanese request and on an Arab decision, is a refuted pretext, because Syria has announced more than once that there will be no problem between Syria and Lebanon when the Israeli forces of invasion leave the Lebanese territories. The relations between Syria and Lebanon, which are two fraternal Arab countries, cannot be dictated by the United States or Israel. It must be defined by Syria and Lebanon in accordance with their common interests, Arab commitments, and the requirements of their security and national interests.

TISHRIN Criticizes Western Presence Under UN Flag

JN031038 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0840 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 3 Oct (SANA) — *Tishrin* says that U.S. efforts are currently concentrating on entrenching Western military presence in Lebanon by placing the NATO forces now in Lebanon under the UN flag to insure their stay for the longest possible period of time.

In its editorial today, *Tishrin* says: The presence of the U.S., French, British, and other forces in Lebanon makes conflagration always a possibility. Consequently, the United States sees the presence of the Multinational Forces under the UN flag as necessary.

Tishrin points out that this equation is proved by the current moves urging the Lebanese regime to ask for UN troops to consolidate the recently achieved cease-fire.

The paper adds: This Phalangist regime's request is rejected by the Lebanese nationalist forces because they consider it a prearranged plan to partition Lebanon into ministates that can be easily devoured and subjected to hegemony and submission.

Tishrin goes on to state a fact which everyone knows, particularly those parties seeking to use the UN troops, which is that resorting to and asking help from the UN troops should take place when a solution is needed to a dispute between two countries. This situation does not apply to Lebanon because the conflict is an internal Lebanese affair and resorting to UN troops in this case means an attempts to perpetuate partition.

Tishrin concludes: Syria, which has repeatedly expressed concern over Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, and independence, must stand on the Lebanese nationalist forces' side, strengthen these forces, and support their struggle for the sake of building the Lebanon of the future — a free, united, and Arab Lebanon.

ATH-THAWRAH on PSP Call for 1943 Charter Change

JN010840 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Press review]

[Text] In today's editorial, *Ath-Thawrah* says: When Syria welcomed the cease-fire agreement in Lebanon and provided the necessary circumstances and atmosphere for its continuity, it was out of its complete conviction that the cease-fire is the first step toward constructive political dialogue which will lead to national accord. This fact still governs the Syrian stand on all levels. Syria firmly adheres to the cease-fire agreement and warns any side that tries to torpedo it or place obstacles in its way. Syria is thus responding to the demands of nationalist Lebanon, which has affirmed its full commitment to the agreement and its desire to carry out all its provisions.

It is clear from this stand that nationalist Lebanon has the right to demand the amendment of the 1943 covenant, which is essentially responsible for the internecine fighting and civil wars.

This objective must be achieved in any political dialogue, because Lebanon today is substantively different from what it was yesterday. Since the current regime in Beirut has so far proven that it seeks to fulfill the Phalangist Party's desires and plans to partition Lebanon and prevent that Arab country from achieving unity and stability, it might be tempted to torpedo the cease-fire agreement of place obstacles in its way, in line with the Phalangist Party's plan to exploit the cease-fire in order to strengthen its positions and then punce on the nationalist forces.

The current regime in Beirut should understand a central fact; namely that the mountain war has established several facts on the ground which emphasize the need to reach a balanced and equal national accord. Nationalist Lebanon has become a central party in any coexistence formula and its comprehensive and decisive role cannot be ignored or bypassed after today. Those who dream of establishing their hegemony and control with the help of the Marines or the Zionist invasion forces are grossly mistaken. The fraternal Lebanese people now fully understand that national accord on the basis of preserving Lebanon's unity, independence, and Arabism is the only course for national salvation.

Arab People's Conference Secretary Departs 30 Sep

JN010828 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — Brother 'Umar al-Hamidi, secretary general of the Arab People's Conference, left Damascus last night following a visit to Syria at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command.

In a press statement before leaving Damascus, Brother Al-Hamidi expressed his apprefiation for the pan-Arab role played by Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad against plans of imperialist and Zionist hegemony. He also highly commended Syria's support and assistance to the Lebanese National Salvation Front.

Brother Al-Hamidi announced that the General Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference has discussed with the Executive Committee of the Federation of Pan-American Arab Organization holding an Arab-Latin American popular conference to discuss means of strengthening cooperation between the Arab people and the Latin American peoples.

Energy Minister Says Golan Heights Negotiable

TA040558 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i has said Israel is prepared to negotiate with Syria without preconditions on all the issues involving the two countries and, in this context, the Golan Heights. Minister Moda'i said we had never said we would not agree to concede part of the Golan Heights in return for a peace agreement with Syria. However, he emphasized that Israel had firm positions regarding the Golan Heights. The Knesset, he pointed out, had not decided to make Israeli law applicable to the Syrian territory and had contented itself with only applying Israel's law and legal system to the Golan Heights. The remarks were made in London at a news conference and reported by the *Ha'aretz* correspondent this morning.

Denies Remarks

TA040610 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i has denied having said that Israel is prepared to make concessions on the Golan Heights. According to him, all he said at last night's news conference in London was that Israel is prepared for negotiations without conditions with Syria. The *Ha'aretz* correspondent had reported that, at the beginning of a news conference and without having been asked about it, Minister Moda'i had said Israel was prepared to negotiate with Syria without preconditions and we had never said we would not agree to concede part of the Golan Heights in return for a peace agreement with Damascus. He drew a distinction between the decision to make Israeli law and legal system applicable to the Golan Heights and a decision to impose sovereignty there. The *Ha'aretz* correspondent says that three other Israeli correspondents heard the remarks.

Shamir Denies Support for Druze Autonomy

TA040946 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0935 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has denied reports that he supports Druze autonomy in Lebanon. In a talk with U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane, Shamir stressed that Israel was interested in a strong central government in Lebanon.

Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that Shamir expressed to McFarlane grave concern about the Syrians' incorporation into the national reconciliation committee in Lebanon. Shamir said: The increase in Syrian influence could bring terrorist activity against Israel in its wake. Envoy McFarlane replied that it was not the United States that initiated the Syrians' incorporation into the agreement. He said the United States still firmly supported the implementation of the agreement between Israel and Lebanon. At the end of his talks at the Foreign Ministry, McFarlane returned to Beirut.

Haddad Complains of 'Erosion' of Authority

TA031236 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Major Sa'd Haddad was hospitalized at Haifa's Rambam Hospital last night after having complained of fatigue. The hospital bulletin says that he is in good health and will be discharged after undergoing a series of tests that will probably take 2 days.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that over the last 2 weeks Haddad and the IDF officers in southern Lebanon have beeninvolved in several clashes, and Haddad complained about what he sees as an erosion of his authority. Israeli security elements in southern Lebanon have, over the past few days, prevented Haddad from closely supervising the activities of Lebanese Administration workers in southern Lebanon, explaining that if these measures were not taken it might appear as though Israel was trying to effect a de facto partitioning of Lebanon. Haddad's demands for tighter control over the Al-Awwali River crossing points have also been turned down.

Lebanese Phalange Commander Interviewed

TA011337 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] In Lebanon the national reconciliation committee, which is to negotiate a new political framework for that country, has yet to hold its first meeting. This is Alan Ben-'Ami. The committee, set up as part of this week's cease-fire agreement in Lebanon comprises representatives of the country's divided communities and factions, Druze, Christians, Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims. They will also have observers at the talks from Syria and Saudi Arabia. In this special interview for "Spotlight," Fadi Afram, who succeeded the late Bashir al-Jumayyil as commander of the Phalange-led Lebanese Forces answered written questions I sent to him at his headquarters in Beirut and he talks about how he sees Lebanon and its future on the eve of the crucial negotiations. The real issue at stake he says, is whether Lebanon will be an independent, Western-oriented democracy or will become a satellite of Syria and the Soviet Union.

[Begin Afram recording] What is happening now in Lebanon is a direct attack and offensive perpetrated by the Soviet Union and its local ally Syria against the whole West, and against the interests of the free world in this part of the world, and of course against the interests of Israel in Lebanon.

What is happening now is an attempt to recover all the ground, all the interests, all the facilities that were lost last year during the operation of Peace for Galilee. We see that the stake is the concerned existence or is the question of whether Lebanon will remain part of the free world and here is a responsibility of the whole free world, including Israel, to help keep Lebanon part of the free world. What the United States is doing now in Lebanon is a relief for us. However, we believe that Israel also, which has always been the spearhead of the free world in this part of the world can do a lot to face the Soviet-Syrian threat, that if it succeeds would represent a major threat to Israel itself.

Your forces which are now south of Al-Awwali River are seeing very clearly how the PLO units, how some Syrian units under cover, are moving back southwards, approaching more and more the Al-Awwali River that we see as danger that was for a certain time pulled away due to your operation, we see this danger moving back on us and on you. And here, if we go back 3 weeks ago, we were saying, we were trying to tell to all the West and to all in Israel about the dangers of the Syrian-Soviet plan and its fulfillment by their local allies, by the PSP [Progressive Socialist Party], by the people of Junblatt, by the PLO. And although at that time there were voices in Israel that were completely ignoring this fact and trying to put the conflict in the context of an internal strife in Lebanon, I hope that it is clear for everybody now that what is happening in Lebanon is a danger against Lebanon as a free country, against the whole West and against Israel. [end recording]

[Ben-'Ami] The commander of the Lebanese Forces says he would like to see Israel and the West offering more direct support to Lebanon.

[Begin Afram recording] Direct support to Lebanon, to change the military balance that is being imposed by the Syrians and its allies, so that we'll be able to push back its offensive and to create a political situation that will create enough leverage on the Syrians to move out of Lebanon, thus putting back Lebanon, and finally putting it back in the free world rank. In this way Israel will have on its northern border a free democratic, secure country that would be in Israel's interest, that would be a guarantee for Israel's security and its north. [end recording]

[Ben-'Ami] The Lebanese Forces are playing their part in opposing the joint Syrian — Soviet offensive against an independent Lebanon, says Fadi Afram, and he rejects any likelihood that the Christian militia will be disbanded in the future.

[Begin Afram recording] The Lebanese Forces were created to fill a vacuum that was created by the complete paralysis in 75-76, the complete paralysis of the official institutions, the army, the internal security forces. And these Lebanese Forces represented the resistance forces mainly of the Christian community against the PLO, against the Syrians and against all the forces that wanted to put a hand on Lebanon and to put it under Syrian control. Now, and presently, the Lebanese Forces are continuing to oppose the Soviet-Syrian plan on the ground. We are doing it now in the same trench with the Lebanese Army which was put in a situation, in a difficult situation, in a phase, while imposing a phase of reconstruction. The Lebanese forces will continue to play this resistance role on the ground, no matter what evolves on the terrain, in the present, or in the forthcoming future.

And a very important point to stress on is that the Lebanese Forces which were created to fill a vacuum, their existence is now linked to the security of the Christian community of Lebanon. And their continued existence is a must especially if we look at the threats that are facing us now, if we look at the threats that faced us historically and at the prospects in the future, we see a need and a continued need to the existence of these forces. [end recording]

[Ben-'Ami] I asked Fadi Afram what he is prepared to do to help reduce the mutual suspicions and hostility between Lebanese Christians, Muslims, and Druze.

[Begin Afram recording] In your question I sense a basic misperception, a basic misperception that in Lebanon the main problem is an internal problem. On the contrary, the problem is mainly due to Syria which is using the fact that the Lebanon is a mosaic of communities to use this fact in order to create the cover for its political and military offensive against Lebanon and against the regime in Lebanon and against the free Lebanon. They are trying to put this cover, this cover, or this basic misperception of internal strife in order to paralyze the Multinational Forces and to remove any capability of these Multinational Forces to intervene in Lebanon and to remove any capability or to paralyze also Israel to intervene against this offensive that is being launched by the Syrians. And if we look at what happened in the Ash-Shuf and the 'Alayh area during the past 3 weeks, the Druze, or namely the people of Mr Junblatt, who were using the Israeli policy and the mountains for the past 10 months or 1 year, they succeeded to take advantage of Syrian, the Syrian policy, in order to perpetrate the massacres that took place in an attempt to create a complete hegemony in this area. [end recording]

[Ben-'Ami] Finally, in the light of all this, does the commander of the Lebanese Forces see Lebanon's future political framework revolving around a partition of the country into ethnic or religious cantons? Fadi Afram says all options are open, but the aim must be to guarantee not only the existence of all Lebanon's communities but also of Lebanon as an entity.

[Begin Afram recording] What the future system will come up in Lebanon will mainly depend on the experience of the past 40 years of independence of this country. Something went wrong in Lebanon and that is why we reached the 75 crisis which is lasting till now. The system that should evolve out of this crisis should be a system that will secure, or that will guarantee the existence of all the communities in Lebanon, and us as Christians. It should guarantee primarily the security of the Christian community, and the individual freedom of each Lebanese and to guarantee or to ensure the complete and all-dimensional freedom for the Lebanese entity. What system it will be, a canton, a federation, a confederation, this will have to be studied in detail among us all Lebanese democratically, in order to find out the best system that will guarantee what I have just mentioned, and that will get the complete consensus of all the communities in Lebanon. [end recording]

Press Comments on Lebanese Situation

TA040714 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 4 Oct 83

[From the review of the morning press editorials]

[Text] *Ha'aretz* writes that Amin al-Jumayyil would do well to try to get used to a certain degree of Druze autonomy in the Ash-Shuf hills. Even those who would prefer a central, strong Lebanese Government do not have to support total concentration of the administration. The experience of decades should teach us

that no Lebanese Government which does not live in peace withthe Druze sect can be a strong government. It is almost certain that there is no chance of rehabilitating the central Lebanese administration, which has no firm foundations and has suffered from a certain erosion of national authority.

Hatzofe writes that Walid Junblatt's declaration about the establishment of an independent Druze administration in the Ash-Shuf hills is the beginning of Lebanon's partition into sectional cantons. This may be the solution to the war of sects in Lebanon. Israeli leaders had the vision of Israel forming connections with an independent Druze country, in Lebanon or Syria, but it has turned out that the Druze in Syria are loyal to the Syrian Government and this has been proved by the Druze in the Golan Heights. While the Druze in Israel are suffering from the problem of dual loyalties, between Israel and their Druze brethren in Lebanon, the Druze in Syria have no such problems, because the Syrian Administration does not permit dual loyalty of this type.

Sharon Admits Arms Supply to Iran With U.S. Nod

PM030902 Paris Le Monde in French 30 Sep 83 p 6

[Unattributed report: "General Sharon Admits that Israel Supplied Arms to Iran 'With U.S. Agreement'"]

[Text] General Sharon admitted on Wednesday, 28 September, that Israel supplied arms to Imam Khomeyni's Iran until 1980 "with U.S. agreement." The Israeli minister without portfolio, who is on a private visit to France, insisted during a press conference: "The United States was fully aware of those arms supplies," which, he explained, have since ceased.

Gen Sharon expressed the view that France would be making a "serious mistake" in entrusting five Super-Etendard aircraft to Baghdad. "Iraq is subject to Soviet influence and is governed by one of the cruelest and most anti-Israeli regimes in the world," he added.

On the other hand, the Israeli minister praised President Ronald Reagan and President Francois Mitterrand for their "decision to carry out a military intervention in Lebanon with a view to halting the aggression launched by the PLO terrorists and Syria with the Soviet Union's support."

MA'ARIV Interviews Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ali

TA030928 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 3 Oct 83 pp 1, 15

[Report from Washington by 'Oded Granot on interview with Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali on 2 October in the Madison Hotel in Washington, D.C.]

[Text] "I know Shamir. He is not an extremist, but a logical man. At the same time, I do not think there will be a change in Israel's policy under his leadership. I mean the party's policy, not that of one man, and, since this is so, it is not to be expected that Israel's policy will change while the Likud remains in power." This was said last night by Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali in an interview he granted to *Ma'ariv's chief editor, Shmu'el Schnitzer.*

The interview was held in the Madison Hotel, where the Egyptian delegation accompanying President Mubarak, who is visiting the U.S. capital, is staying.

"If a national unity government had been established in Israel," 'Ali said, "policy might have changed because a compromise between the platforms of the two parties would have appeared."

Several times in the course of the interview the Egyptian foreign minister stressed that Egypt's commitment to send its ambassador back to Israel when a timetable for Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon is obtained "still stands."

He vigorously denied claims heard in Israel that Egypt would not have called its ambassador back even if the war in Lebanon had not broken out. "Believe me, such a thing would not have happened under any circumstances. If anybody thinks that when full diplomatic relations between Egypt and the Arab world are renewed this will be at Israel's expense, he is mistaken. We will not be prepared to sacrifice the peace process because of our relations with the Arab countries."

The Egyptian deputy prime minister said that if the war in Lebanon had not broken out, Egypt would not have considered recalling its ambassador from Tel Aviv at all. Even when the war broke out and "you invaded Lebanon," Egypt did not recall its ambassador in the first stage of the operation, but only during the stage of the encirclement of Beirut and the bombardment of the city.

On Egypt's position on the PLO, Minister 'Ali said that Egypt had not always regarded the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people. However, after the massacre in the refugee camps in Beirut, Cairo did think that it was indeed the sole representative because "the Palestinian people want to have a representative to speak in their name."

The Egyptian foreign minister was asked what would happen if King Husayn and 'Arafat were unable to reach a formula for joint representation in negotiations when they begin. He emphasized that there was a possibility that Husayn would include "Palestinian representatives from the West Bank in his delegation," but this would be on condition that Israel "does something about the settlements," which were putting obstacles in the path of the "moderate Palestinians, Jordan, and the chance fora peace arrangement."

The deputy prime minister of Egypt enumerated several factors that had created bitterness toward Israel among the Egyptian people: the destruction of Yamit, the Tabah affair and, finally, the invasion of Beirut, the bombardment, and the massacre in the refugee camps. "The least the Government of Egypt was able to do was to recall its ambassador from Tel Aviv," he said.

At the end of the interview the Egyptian minister disclosed that, during his meeting with President Reagan, President Mubarak had preempted the U.S. President by embarking upon an explanation of why Egypt was not sending its ambassador back to Israel. Even before Reagan managed to raise this in the talk, hegave Reagan those reasons expressed by Minister 'Ali during the interview.

Arens Critical of Egypt

TA031449 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1421 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has said that Egypt gravely violated the peace agreement by recalling its ambassador from Tel Aviv. Had we known, he said, that Egypt would behave like this in times of differences with us, it is doubtful that we would have made such far-reaching concessions on the peace agreement. Arens was speaking at a dedication ceremony for the Nevatim Air Base in the Negev. He said that this air base is a good example of Israel's concessions for peace, since it replaces air bases evacuated in the Sinai.

Shamir Rejects Postponing Cabinet Presentation

TA031900 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir has once again rejected the request to postpone the presentation of his Cabinet to the Knesset. Minister Shamir conferred with three of the six coalition Knesset members who are calling for a national unity government and asked them to withdraw their request to postpone the presentation of the new Cabinet until next week. Knesset Members Yitzhaq Berman, Dror Zeigerman, and Dan Tikhon refused to comply, saying they believed a compromise formula could still be found that would bridge the differences of opinion with the Labor Party. At that point, Shamir informed them that he believes the presentation of the Cabinet should no longer be postponed and that is why he would present it to the Knesset this week.

Agudat Yisra'el Favors Elections

TA031416 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Agudat Yisra'el does not want a new government but immediate elections, according to remarks by MK Menahem Porush to our correspondent in the Knesset. Porush said that yesterday after the coalition leaders had decided to present the Shamir government to the Knesset this week, the four members of the Agudat Yisra'el faction met and decided that it would be better to call elections.

MK Porush said that at the beginning of the contacts over the establishment of the coalition, they had demanded dates from Yitzhaq Shamir for the implementation of several of their demands, but nothing had been done although he could have done so. Thus, for example, he said that Agudat Yisra'el had asked for the Ministry of Housing to prevent the construction of a swimming pool not far from an Orthodox center in Ramot Polin, Jerusalem. A month has passed, the issue has dragged on, and nothing has been done. Porush also said that under the Alignment, new schools were established every year for Agudat Yisra'el's educational system. During Minister Hammer's time in office, he emphasized, not only had none been established, but Agudat Yisra'el was being deprived of them.

If Yitzhaq Shamir wants to present a government of 58, he can also present a government of 54, according to Menahem Porush.

Compromise Proposed

TA040622 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 4 oct 83

[Text] Knesset Member Dan Tikhon, one of the four Liberals who are demanding a unity government, will vote for Shamir's government if it is presented to the Knesset on Monday, 10 October. He told our correspondent Arye Golan that in order to be convinced that the issue of a national unity government has been fully resolved, he is asking the Likud to permit him and his colleagues to conduct shuttle diplomacy between the leaders of the Likud and the Alignment until the beginning of next week and if, by Monday, it finally emerges that a unity government cannot be established, he will recommend to his colleagues from the group of six to support Shamir's government without any connection to the question of who was to blame for the failure of the talks. In his opinion, if Shamir agrees to postpone the presentation of the government until 10 October, he will win the support of 64 Knesset members.

Begin Reportedly To Resign

TA030735 Tel Aviv 'Al Hamishmar in Hebrew 3 Oct 83 p 1

[Report by Moti Basoq]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin will resign his Knesset membership at the opening of the Knesset's winter session, which will take place in about 2 weeks, if the Knesset expresses confidence within the next few days in a new government headed by Yitzhaq Shamir.

After his resignation the prime minister intends to write books about the history of Israel since 1948 and the period during which he held the position of prime minister of Israel.

Menahem Begin's place will be taken by David Mor, a Herut member from Savyon. He is a diamond manufacturer and belongs to Minister David Levi's camp.

Aridor Delays U.S. Trip for Coalition Talks

TA040922 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 4 Oct 83 pp 1,2

[Report by economic correspondent Avi Temkin]

[Excerpt] Finance Minister Yoram Aridor has postponed his return to the U.S., the Treasury announced yesterday. Aridor was to have flown back to the U.S. today for talks tomorrow with Secretary of State George Shultz on American aid to Israel in 1985.

According to the Treasury, the postponement came at the request of Prime Minister-Designate Yitzhaq Shamir, who wanted him present at the coalition talks. A spokesman for the ministry denied that the delay was related to any large devaluation, or implementation of a new economic programme.

Aridor returned from the U.S. on Friday having met several top U.S. officials, including Treasury Secretary Donald Regan, with whom he discussed the state of the Israeli economy.

Gaza Youths Protest Syrian Actions Against PLO

TA301229 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 30 Sep 83 p 2

[Text]Gaza — Youths in refugee camps demonstrated yesterday to protest Syrian actions against the Palestinian Liberation Organization in Lebanon, local sources reported.

Several hundred youths in the (Nussayrhat) and Rafah camps held placards and chanted anti-Syrian slogans as well as calling on the PLO to ensure "the independence of the Palestinian decision."

PLO Radio Starts Broadcasts From Tripoli Area

TA020949 Tel Aviv 'Al Hamishmar in Hebrew 2 Oct 83 p 1

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] The Voice of the Palestinian Revolution [Qol Hamahapekha Hapalestinit] has started broadcasting to the territories, apparently from the Al-Badawi camp, near Tripoli. After the evacuation of Beirut, the PLO's broadcasts to the territories stopped, except for 1-hour broadcasts on Baghdad radio, Damascus Radio, and from Cairo. The broadcasts from Al-Badawi have an anti-Syrian tone and are interspersed with announcements to PLO squads in the territories.

The broadcasts on Damascus radio express the positions of Abu Musa's[Sa'id Musa Muragha]supporters. The station in Damascus is managed by Mahmud Labadi, a former PLO spokesman who joined the ranks of Abu Musa.

Foreign Currency Reserves Register Another Drop

TA030800 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 3 Oct 83 p 1

[Report by Avi Temkin]

[Text]Israel's foreign currency reserves decreased by $98 million last month, the Bank of Israel announced yesterday.

It was the third consecutive month of such a decrease. Since July the reserves have dropped by $230 million. At the end of last month the foreign currency reserves totalled $2,954m.

The central bank also announced that the government printed some IS9 billion last month, even though it raised some IS4 billion in the capital markets. This brings the cumulative monetary injection since the beginning of the fiscal year in April to some IS42.5B.

Reacting to these figures, the Treasury stressed yesterday that the amount of money printed in September is 20 percent lower in real terms than in the same month last year, and that the cumulative monetary injection since April is about 8 percent lower in real terms than it was in the April-September 1982 period.

The Treasury declined to comment on the drop in foreign currency reserves, saying only that the decrease reflects "seasonal factors."

But central bank officials were much more worried about the decrease in the reserves. "As long as the deficit keeps growing, the reserves will drop or the foreign debt will rise, and the Treasury cannot evade this fact," they said.

The Industry and Trade Ministry disclosed yesterday that diamond exports totalled $68.3m. last September, 15 percent less than the $80.7m. exported in September last year.

But the ministry added that since the beginning of the year, the sales of diamonds overseas have increased by 10 percent totalling $735m. as compared to $666m. during the same period last year.

The ministry, noting that this was the first month this year that diamond exports declined, stressed that there were only 20 working days in September because of the holidays.

Conference Offers Food Strategy Recommendations
AB0308120 Paris AFP in English 0725 GMT 3 Oct 83

[By Jerome Mainguet]

[Text] Niamey, Oct 3 (AFP) — Food supply problems in sub-Saharan Africa over the last 20 years have obliged states of the continent to draw up strategies bringing into play complex factors that have proved difficult to coordinate. An international conference here last week, attended by about 60 experts from African and European states and international organizations, raised some of the problems faced by African countries seeking to put forward a food strategy, and came up with some answers. The growing food shortage is generally attributed to a widening gap between population increase and agricultural and livestock production, to bad weather and to prolonged neglect of such cultivation. African experts have been aware for some years of the need to closely integrate in their development plans a whole system of political and social measures to ensure food security and increase [words indistinct] drawn up so far have not in general produced satisfactory results.

The Niamey conference, organized by the "Cooperation for Development in Africa" group of industrialised countries and the UN's Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), sought to allow African states, aid donor countries and organizations to exchange experiences and pinpoint problems. The conference, which followed numerous similar recent gatherings, concluded that development plans must give priority to agriculture. This priority implied for the participants that small peasants, who constitute most of Africa's farmers should be encouraged by a series of measures — incentive policy regarding buying prices for products, introduction of modern means of production, easier credit, greater availability of high-performance seed, of fertiliser and of pesticides, together with a vigorous practical education and training policy. Local authorities must also provide the infrastructure necessary for the distribution of produce — roads, rural tracks, and means of transport — and for its storage and its sale, the conference concluded.

Regarding the marketing of produce, the Niamey gathering's experts made a point about the weightiness of some state bodies, advocating a partial liberalisation at least, which would leave some room for both traders and peasant cooperatives. The conference also drew African states' attention to the number of existing trading possibilities within any particular region, whether in cereals, other crops, or meat produce. Food supply strategies could be drawn up at the level of regional or sub-regional organizations, because of the complementary nature of needs and resources in the states concerned, if they harmonised their infrastructures and customs policies, for example.

The conference also stressed the benefit which could be reaped by promoting local crops such as millet, sorghum, and root, tuber and vegetable crops and devoting research efforts to them, and by promoting local industry for the treatment of such crops for consumer use. Local transformation (milling, for example), had the double advantage towards high-energy content products that they might not otherwise desire. The gathering also stressed the importance of reducing dependence on unreliable rainfall, and said water management could play a decisive role. Another major point raised by the conference was on external food aid to Africa. While stressing the importance of emergency help, in the case of natural calamity for example, it pointed out [words indistinct]. In the long run, such aid discouraged peasants' production and created the habit of consuming products — wheat for example — which do not grow locally, thus increasing dependence on external supplies.

The conference concluded that food aid should be used to favor development of national cultivation, rather than substitute for it, and encourage trade on the continent between countries with food surpluses and those with deficits. While stressing that without external aid, a food supply strategy could scarcely work, the experts agreed that the nature and form of such aid should be the subject of deeper study by aid donors and recipients.

Reportage on French-African Vittel Summit

For media coverage of the French-African summit taking place at Vittel in northern France, including texts of speeches by French President Mitterrand, Zairian President Sese Seko Mobuto, and reports on Chadian President Hissein Habre's remarks and fringe conferences, see the International Affairs sectionof the 3 October Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

ALGERIA

Prime Minister Abdelghani Leaves for Kuwait

LD031234 Algiers APS in English 1007 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Algiers, 3-10-83 (APS) — Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, Politbureau member, prime minister went to Kuwait where he is due to make an official visit on the invitation of the Kuwait Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah.

Delegation Visits Moscow at CPSU's Invitation

LD031223 Algiers APS in English 1005 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Algiers, 3-10-83 (APS) — Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Politbureau member, responsible for the permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee, went to Moscow at the head of a delegation for an official visit on the invitation of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party. Mr Messaadia will bear a message from President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, FLN party secretary general, to Mr Yuriy Andropov, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, secretary general of the USSR Communist Party.

LIBYA

'Ubaydi Conveys Message to Tanzanian President

LD031011 Tripoli JANA in English 0905 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] New York, Dhulhijah 26, Oct 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere met here on Saturday night with the Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau Mr 'Abd al-Ati 'Ubaydi who conveyed to the president an oral message from the leader of the revolution on situationsin the world and in Africa.

Secretary Meets Iranian, Maldives Counterparts

LD031017 Tripoli JANA in English 0907 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text][no place name as received] Dhulhijah 26, Oct 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau met Saturday evening with Iran's Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akhbar Velayati and the foreign minister of the Maldives Republic. The meetings which were held at the UN headquarters took up issues related to the UN General Assembly's 38th session and current international issues of common interest.

JANA: Chad's Habre Admits to 'Shaky' Position

LD031912 Tripoli JANA in English 1751 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Paris, Dhulhijah 26 Oct 3 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Diplomatic sources in Paris reported on a meeting with closed aides in Paris last Saturday that he is in a weak position and that he will request more aid and support from the terrorist organizations of U.S. and France. Renegade Habre disclosed that his military situation is shaky, that he has no control over southern Chad, that his supporters were rebelling and are afraid to face the armed forces of the legitimate government. He added that the mercenaries in his rebel army were putting high demands and requesting huge payments to work for him. Habre stressed in another point during his meeting his loyalty to the U.S. Administration and specially to Ronald Reagan and Mitterrand, and supported him to counter the advance of the armed forces of the legitimate unified government led by Mr Goukouni.

Sudan's Numayri Continues To Arrest Opposition

LD032131 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum — The "tail" Numayri's authorities continued the campaign of arrests in the ranks of the Sudanese opposition. Yesterday, for the second day, they arrested members of various parties and organizations. The Lebanese *As-Safir*, which reported the news in today's issue, said that among the newly arrested were: (Sayyid Ahmad Khalifah), the prominent Sudanese writer; (Idris Banna), the former director in the Ministry of Information; 8 Ansars from the White Nile region, and 11 others from Al Huda village in the central region. The campaign of arrests included ('Abd ar-Rasul an-Nur), personal secretary to (Sadiq al-Mahdi), who has also been arrested by the Sudanese authorities; (Bakr Adil), one of (Sadiq al-Mahdi's) assistants and (Izz ad-Din Ali Amir), member of the Sudanese Communist Party Politburo.

A statement by the Sudanese Democratic Unionist Party said that these arrests will [word indistinct] the Sudanese national movement and strengthen the joint struggle of those opposed to the "tail" Numayri's regime. The new campaign is considered an indication that the "tail" Numayri's regime in Sudan has reached the apex of its isolation from the popular base.

Meanwhile, Sudanese sources have made a statement to the London-based *Al-'Arab* and said that the continuing campaigns of arrests have included various Sudanese towns and regions where thorough search operations were carried out by the regime's apparatus, under heavy guard, of all the paths and roads linking the regions and the towns and villages.

Franco-African Summit Has 'Dangerous Consequences'

LD032300 Tripoli JANA in English 1950 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Paris, Dhulhijah 27, Oct 4, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — President Mitterand opened in Vittel, east France, today the 10th Franco-African summit. The summit is being attended by 37 countries of which 24 are being represented by the heads of states. JANA correspondent commented on this gathering and its dangerous consequences and the supposed African independent stand by saying, "It is regrettable and surprising to see such summits continuing to take place in a country that has a long colonial past and still looks down on the African countries who were participating in this summit. The African countries, who are taking part in this summit under the

France's auspices should realise that they would benefit very little from it, or even nothing at all, if it was to be compared with the efforts and burden of the travel to Paris especially for those who raise the slogans of freedom, independence, and African identity. This gathering means that many of the participants have not yet broken out of their previous complex.

We should, before anything else, realise that France is planning, silently and on the long-run, to divide Africa. Otherwise, how can we explain the holding of this summit under the auspices of a country that is still believing in the gun-boats diplomacy which is being attended by 24 countries and governments and the representatives of 14 others.

We should as Africans, come out in the open and benefit in a much more comprehensive way and manage our affairs by ourselves without any foreign influence. Therefore we should seriously abrogate that old tradition of gathering around France or any other foreign country. The OAU is our alternative and natural source for solving the continent's problems."

Reportage on Congressional Action on Great Canal

Great Canal Project Discussed

LD031937 Tripoli JANA in English 1453 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulhijah 26, Oct 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The General People's Congress started its extraordinary session for 1983 this morning at the People's Hall in Tripoli to formulate the resolutions of the masses of the basic people's congresses on the Great Canal Project. The secretary of the General People's Congress opened the meeting saying it is another sincere response to the call of the leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution. After we gathered in the town of Al Kufrah in an historic meeting during which we, Libyans men and women and all the world, heard the guidelines of the revolution's leader and the briefings and explanations from the technicians who prepared the necessary studies of the Great Canal Project.

The General People's Congress secretary pointed to the positive response of the basic people's congresses to the leader's call, together with the holding of an extraordinary session of the basic people's congresses to discuss this giant project which has for many years been the hope and dream of revolutionaries.... [JANA ellipses] He said: "We are meeting today to formulate the decisions of the basic people's congresses in this respect. Let the whole world see how the masses formulate their decisions in the Jamahiriyah..."

He said that whatever the challenge, the Libyans will meet it because they are able, as a result of the revolution and of their free will, to overcome all difficulties and build their own life. At the end of the speech, the General People's Congress secretary spelled out the agenda of the session which only contains one article which is the Great Canal Project and the seleciton of a people's committee to run this project. The congress then listened to the decisions of various basic congresses and their comments on the memorandum regarding this giant project. A number of the basic people's congresses suggested the contribution of the rich Arab countries in financing the various stages of this great project which will be completed in 10 years time. These (?suggestions) came in the remarks accompanied by their resolutions taken by the basic people's congresses in their extraordinary meetings. The basic congresses called on Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, and Algeria to contribute to the financing of this great project.

Management Committee Named

LD032341 Tripoli JANA in English 2052 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Spelling of all names as received]

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulhijah 26, Oct 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The General People's Congress (GPC) has decided to set up a people's committee to carry out and to manage the project of the great artificial river.

The committee comprises of:

1-Engineer Muhammad Ahmad Manqush - secretary

2-Engineer Al-Tahir Sayala - member

3-Nuri al-Sanusi - member

4-Al-Dukali al-Mugaryat - member

5-Idris al-Hamri - member.

The GPC also assigned Engineer Muhammad 'Ubayd Shukri, secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Utilities, to take charge of Housing Secretariat of the General People's Committee, provided the merger of the two secretariats, the housing and the public utilities, is reviewed and discussed by the basic people's congresses in their third regular session this year.

Resolution Asks Arab Help

LD032331 Tripoli JANA in English 2050 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulhijah 26, Oct 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The basic people's congress in the Jamahiriyah decided to call upon the sister Arab countries with financial capabilities to take part in the funding of the project of the great artificial river. In its extraordinary session the General People's Congress formulated the resolution of the basic people's congresses. It reads as follows:

In the belief of Arab unity as an aim, destiny in the context of economic integration between Arabs, the basic people's congresses decide to call upon sister Arab countries with financial resources to come forward with the funds necessary to help the Libyan Arab people in achieving this great and vital project.

Extraordinary Session Ends

LD032344 Tripoli JANA in English 2015 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Tripoli, Dhulhijah 26, Oct 4, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The General People's Congress (GPC) has

ended its extraordinary session which started this morning to formulate the resolutions of the Basic Peoples Congresses (BPC) concerning the building of the great artificial river. The GPC has decided to set up a people's committee to charge of and to supervise the execution of this great project. On this occasion the GPC sent a cable to the revolution's leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

MOROCCO

Delegates Arrive for Mineral Resources Meeting

UAE Oil Minister Arrives

LD031658 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Excerpt] UAE Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Mani ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah arrived in Rabat this afternoon for the fifth ministerial meeting of the Arab Organization for Mineral Resources due to be held in Rabat.

Iraqi Minerals Minister Arrives

LD032321 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Iraqi Minerals Minister Subhi Yasin Khudayr arrived this afternoon in Morocco to attend the Fifth Ministerial Council of the Arab Organization for Mineral Resources to be held in Rabat.

SUDAN

Information Minister Criticizes BBC 'Campaigns'

JN031935 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Oct (SUNA) — Muhammad Khujali Salihin, Sudanese minister of national guidance and information, has made a statement on the campaigns that the BBC is launching against the enforcement of Islamic law. He said:

During the last few days, we have been following up these campaigns that the BBC is launching against the enforcement of Islamic law in place of the penal code. He added that this campaign by the BBC's Arabic section is not unusual because the basic objective of this BBC radio station is not to serve the Arabs, but to communicate certain information and policies of far-reaching strategic objectives in this region.

Salihin added: The BBC allegation, that it communicates information in a neutral and objective manner, is only a veil behind which the broadcasting service hides to reach its aims. He also said that the legislative revolution forwarded by President Numayri has broken the last ring of foreign influence in the country, put an end to the British penal code that prevailed since 1899, and undermined the idea that the old imperialist policies have been spreading among the Arabs and Muslims and that it is impossible for them to enforce Islamic law. He added that Numayri's move is considered an example for other Arab and Islamic states.

In his statement, Salihin said that this legislative revolution, which was preceded by intensive studies and was included in the comprehensive political program of the third presidential term, is a culmination of all the Sudanese achievements in the various political, economic, and social spheres. He added: This revolution is not the result of certain political circumstances as we have affirmed many times, and the current popular approval of this decision constitutes a strong reply to the BBC. At the end of his statement, the minister said: We are aware of the real aims of this campaign. The BBC fears that this new Islamic awakening will spread in the other Islamic states, which are endeavoring to realize full freedom and which have not found the way to do it through other systems and laws.

TUNISIA

President Bourguiba Receives New Zairian Envoy

PM031515 Tunis L'Action in French 14 Sep 83 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Head of State Receives New Zairian Ambassador's Credentials"]

[Excerpt] During an official ceremony held at the presidential residence in Mornag yesterday morning, President Bourguiba received the credentials of Mr Mboladinga Katako, the new Zairian ambassador to Tunis, in the presence of Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi.

ETHIOPIA

Demonstrators Protest UN Decision To Hear Mengistu

EA032107 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 1500 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] New York — About 400 Ethiopians resident in the United States demonstrated against the UN decision to listen to Mengistu's address at the 38th General Assembly. The demonstrators, who oppose the wars waged by the Ethiopian Government in Eritrea, Tigre and eastern Ethiopia, called for the immediate release of detainees. They protested against the false military propaganda being put out while people were starving and called for the withdrawal of Cuban and Soviet troops from Ethiopia.

News sources from New York have disclosed that for unknown reasons Colonel Mengistu has decided to abstain from attending the meeting after he was scheduled to address the assembly on 30 September.

KENYA

Nairobi Names New Government Following Reshuffle

Cabinet Appointments

EA011624 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today announced the formation of a 23-man new Cabinet, appointed 42 assistant ministers, 24 permanent secretaries, and nominated 11 members to parliament. A nominated member, Professor George Saitoti, will be the minister for finance and planning, while Mr Kenneth Matiba takes the Ministry of Culture and Social Services. Mr Maina Wanjigi has been appointed the minister for tourism and wildlife. Two new ministers of state in the office of the president will joint Mr Justus Ole Tipis in running five departments. They are Mr Peter Nyakiamo and Mr Hussein Maalim Muhammad. Other ministers in the former government have been reshuffled. Those dropped include Dr Zachary Onyonka, Mr Stanley Oloitipitip, and Mr Charles Rubia. A new post of solicitor-general has been created and will be headed by Mr Teddy Aswani.

In a statement released at State House, Nakuru, President Moi made it clear that the criteria for appointment to such demanding positions must be made above tribal or ethnic sentiments. The president said that we must all think as Kenyans and accept that public positions should be held by people considered most suitable regardless of ethnic background. He said that while making the appointments, he had seriously recognized the heavy responsibility ahead, which must be tackled skillfully and with dedication in order to meet the aspirations of all Kenyans. President Moi said the expectations of Kenyans can only be met through hard work, determination, and loyalty to the country. He said this called for those elected or appointed to positions of managing the affairs of the nation to be seen to be dedicated to serve all Kenyans regardless of religious or ethnic background. The president said he expected all public servants to realize that we are opening a new chapter along which inefficiency, disloyalty, tribalism, nepotism, personal ego, and other antisocial behavior will not be tolerated. He further said that he is determined to ensure discipline was maintained by all public servants, including ministers, through strict observance of the laid-down disciplinary code.

The Cabinet appointments are as follows:

Vice President	Kwai Kibaki
Minister for:	
Home Affairs	Kwai Kibaki
Finance & Planning	George Saitoti
Cooperative Development	Kuasa Mango
Agriculture & Livestock Development	William Odongo Omano
Culture & Social Services	Kenneth Matiba
Information & Broadcasting	Robert Matano
Foreign Affairs	Elijah Mwangale
Lands & Settlement	Paul Ngei
Water Development	Jeremiah Nyagah
Education, Science & Technology	Professor Jonathan Ngeno
Local Government	Moses Mudavadi
Tourism & Wildlife	Maini Wanjigi
Energy & Regional Development	Nicholas Biwott
Commerce & Industry	Andrew Omanga
Works, Housing & Physical Planning	Arthur Magugu
Labor	Robert Ouko
Health	Mabeere Mmbijjewe
Environment & Natural Resources	Eliud Mwamunga
Transport & Communications	Henry Kosgey
Ministers of State:	Justus Ole Tipis
	Peter Nyakiamo
	Hussein Maalim Muhammad
Attorney General	Matthew Guy Muli

Assistant Ministers

EA011835 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] President Moi has made the following appointments of assistant ministers:

Office of the President: Honorable Isaac Salatt, Honorable Ngumbu Njururi Maiyani, and Honorable Martin Shikuku.

Office of the Vice President and Ministry of Home Affairs: Honorable Walter Mwita and Honorable Tom Ogalo Ogada.

Ministry of Finance and Planning: Honorable Ngengi Muigai and Honorable Stephen Echakara.

Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development: Honorable George Mwicigi, Honorable William Saina, and Honorable Mohamed Omar Soba.

Ministry of Culture and Social Services: Honorable Stanley Metto and Noah Katana Ngala.

Information and Broadcasting: Francis Lotodo and Erich Khasakhala.

Cooperative Development: Peter Ejore and Archbishop Stephen Ondiek.

Foreign Affairs: Philip Leakey and Professor Paul Sumbi.

Lands and Settlement: Andrew Ngumba and Shariff Nassir Taib.

Water Development: Philip Lepish Edupoy and Edward Kitanui.

Education, Science, and Technology: Ezekiel Mweu and Kimani Wa Nyoike.

Local Government: P. Lotitiyo Lekaikum and Mungai Njenga John.

Tourism and Wildlife: John Mutinda and Arthur Moody Awori.

Energy and Regional Development: James Njenga Karume and Atebe Marita.

Commerce and Industry: Wilberforce Kisiero and John Matere Kereri.

Works, Housing, and Physical Planning: Laban Kitele and Joseph Maihenge.

Labor: Ahmed Abdi Ogle and Christopher Mogere Obure.

Health: Nahashon Njuno and Ochola Makanyengo.

Environment and Natural Resources: Henry Cheboiwo and Haji Adichareh.

Transport and Communications: Frederick Gumo and Joseph Muturia.

Further Assistant Minister

EA011953 Nairobi Domestic Television Service in Swahili 1615 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] A report we have just received says that Mr Phares Kanindo has been appointed as the third assistant minister in the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology. Thus, there are now 43 assistant ministers.

Permanent Secretaries

EA011847 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi has appointed the following as permanent secretaries:

Office of President, Chief Secretary, Head of Civil Service & Secretary to Cabinet	Jeremiah Kiereini
Development, Coordination & Cabinet Office	Simon Nyachae
Director of Personnel Management	Arron Kandie
Provincial Administration & Internal Security	James Mathenge
Defense	Joseph Muliro
Office of Vice President	David Mwiraria
Ministry of:	
Home Affairs	David Mwiraria
Finance & Planning	Harry Mule
Cooperative Development	Archibald Githinji
Agriculture & Livestock Development	David Namu
Culture & Social Services	J.K. Ndoto
Information & Broadcasting	John Gituma
Foreign Affairs	Bethwel Kiplagat
Lands & Settlement	Professor Peter Gacie
Water Development	(Yekohanda) Masakhalia
Education, Science & Technology	Leo Odero
Local Government	J.P. Mbugua
Tourism & Wildlife	Japhet Kiti
Energy & Regional Development	J. Karuga
Commerce & Industry	John Githuku
Works, Housing & Physical Planning	Joseph arap Leting
Labor	Joseph Githinji
Health	J.A. Kipsanai
Environment & Natural Resources	V.O. Opere
Transport & Communications	W.P. Wambura

CHAD

LE MATIN Interviews GUNT Defense Minister

PM031456 Paris Le Matin in French 29 Sep 83 pp 14-15

[Interview with Transitional National Union Government National Defense Minister Acheikh ibn Oumar by Elio Comarin — date and place not given]

[Text] Question: How do you view the French military intervention in Chad 6 weeks ago?

Answer: At present this intervention is being pursued within the framework of the Franco-Chadian military agreements. France, and the French Socialist government in particular, with regard to which we still have hopes — some would say illusions — has stated its intention of ensuring that the presence of its forces in Chad does not serve to revive the war, of avoiding direct intervention in this civil war among the Chadian factions, and, instead, of promoting peace. We are following that with interest and would like it to be put into practice. In a way, we are still giving the French Government the benefit of the doubt.

The presence of the French troops may be a factor which will help the search for a negotiated solution, and from this viewpoint it is not a bad thing.

Question: What do you think are the chances of reaching a negotiated solution?

Answer: Just as a military solution cannot be envisaged, we must recognize that a negotiated solution is not easy. This is mainly due to the complexity of the problem, the external factors, the international dimension of the Chad problem, and above all Hissein Habre's extremist attitude: Not only is he refusing to hold discussions with the other political components but he goes so far as to deny their existence, and declares to anybody willing to listen that he will crush everybody by force. Despite that, we are prepared to take part in negotiations with all Chadians.

Question: You have been chief of the Revolutionary Democratic Council [CDR] since Acyl Ahmat's death, and you are often portrayed as the possible "third man" (leaving aside Habre and Goukouni) who could reconcile all Chadians. How do you react to this way of portraying Chad's future?

Answer: When the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] was present in Ndjamena, our movement always said that only a comprehensive reconciliation — including Habre's FAN, which we were fighting at the time — could restore peace in Chad. We had also said that the presence of a number of leaders in the forefront was an obstacle in view of the animosities and conflicts.

Nonetheless this story of a "third man" is a complete fantasy.

First, I know nothing about it. Second, I think that there will be no new solution with a "third" or "fourth man." A unitary, lasting, and comprehensive solution is necessary to bring about a political and social plan capable of solving the existing conflicts among the different components of Chadian society which alone can break the deadlock in the situation. There is no deus ex machina in Chad. Moreover, I certainly to not intend to launch into an insane race for power.

Question: The GDR is often portrayed as the Chadian movement closest to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's Libya and the strongest militarily within the GUNT. Is that true?

Answer: Col al-Qadhdhafi has often been portrayed by the Americans as the most dangerous man in the world. When you know what the United States represents as a force of exploitation and oppression of Third World peoples, I am almost flattered that we should be described as pro-Libyan.

Nonetheless, this assertion is completely untrue. We are above all a national Chadian force, which emerged from the Chadian National Liberation Front created before the Libyan revolution (September 1969). If we accept major support from Libya, such as other GUNT factions, it is because we are forced to face a military situation. We can only be accused of being pro-Libyan when we refuse to allow other countries to help us; but for the time being there are none.

Regarding our influence within the GUNT, it is true that we are a major component, both military and political, but that is not new. Since war has unfortunately always been on the agenda in Chad, we are trying to participate in it, that is all.

Question: It is sometimes said that you might replace Goukouni Oueddei as GUNT leader.

Answer: Goukouni Oueddei is GUNT leader not because he imposed himself, or because he is the strongest, or the most intelligent, but because there was a consensus among the different factions to entrust the GUNT presidency to him. To try to replace him as GUNT leader would mean being in the same situation as Hissein Habre in 1980, when he betrayed the pledges signed in Lagos. There is no question of our doing such a thing.

Question: On the eve of the Franco-African summit in Vittel, what are your suggestions in the context of the search for a solution to the Chadian conflict?

Answer: The holding of this conference, even if it does not concern us directly, can be a new framework for achieving progress. Given the present deadlock, the most important thing is to try to launch initiatives to make the Chadians meet and discuss. To that end I will ask the various countries taking part in the Vittel summit to try to find a rapid solution, but not in our place; in other words, to assess the agreements and disagreements which exist at the present time.

Question: The idea of a federation has sometimes been envisaged in some quarters. What do you think of that?

Answer: The word "federation" is completely discredited in Chadianpolitical vocabulary. That is because it was introduced by Giscard d'Estaing in a very unhealthy framework. But we have no ready-made solution. All the possible solutions can be

discussed. And, above all, the Chadian question must not be reduced to a power question.

It is necessary to tackle the roots of the Chad crisis; it is due to incompatibility and to antagonism between the different components (ethnic, cultural, or religious groups) of the Chadian people. It is thus necessary to find a political solution which makes possible harmonious cohabitation among the components of our society, taking account of all the existing diversity.

GABON

Official Source Cited on Oil Reserves Discovery

AB031740 Paris AFP in English 1510 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Libreville, Oct 3 (AFP) — Gabon has discovered new oil reserves and exploitation is expected to begin without delay, an official source said here today. The source did not say how large the reserves were, but drilling indicated that the oil was exploitable. The discovery will pump new life into an industry which was flagging because of the depletion of existing raserves, and production had dropped by about seven per cent each year, moving from 12 million metric tons in 1976 to 7.9 million tons last year.

The fall in production coupled with the drop in oil prices had caused the government to introduce austerity measures which are still in effect. Oil constitutes 80 percent of Gabon's exports and 65 per cent of the west African country's revenue. Exploitation of the new wells will enable the government to stop the fall in its oil exports and increase production to more than nine million tons next year, officials said.

GHANA

Rawlings Says Animosity Toward Revolution Reduced

AB031607 Accra Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has again asked all Ghanaians to put their shoulders to the wheel to get the revolution moving now that the process of change is being understood both within and outside the country. He was addressing the chiefs and people of Boso in the Eastern Region at a durbar to mark their yam festival where he also opened a health center. Flight Lt Rawlings noted that the animosity that was generated at the beginning of the revolution has also reduced. He observed that a lot of time has been wasted in dealing with human tension and conflict. But now that things are beginning to stabilize and authority is being harmonized, everyone must get himself involved.

On the provision of basic amenities, the PNDC chairman emphasized that government attention and assistance will now be focused on the rural areas, particularly where the people are prepared to assist themselves through communal activity, and he assured the people of Boso that something will be done about their appeal for electricity and an improvement in their water supply system. Flight Lt Rawlings said all that the PNDC is doing is to make independence more meaningful for all Ghanaians and to ensure more food to feed themselves instead of relying on imported food items for daily consumption and for the celebration of annual festivals. The real essence of celebration during such festivals is that the people must have something to show after harvesting their crops at the end of the farming season. Flight Lt Rawlings declared that unless Ghanaians learn the wisdom in producing before celebrating, the problems of the nation cannot be solved. He advised Ghanaians to make their culture more meaningful by adapting it to changing circumstances and keeping a balance between the best of both the old and the new.

UPPER VOLTA

President Sankara Delivers Policy Statement

AB030945 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2005 GMT 2 Oct 83

[President Thomas Sankara's address to the nation in Ouagadougou on 2 October 1983 — recorded]

[Excerpts] People of Upper Volta, comrade male and female militants of the revolution: During this year, 1983, our country has gone through particularly intensive moments that have left indelible marks on the minds of many of our citizens. During that period, the Upper Voltan people's struggle has had its ups and downs. Our people waged a heroic struggle and eventually won on the now historic night of 4 August 1983. For almost 2 months now, the revolution has been dynamically making progress in our country. For 2 months, the Upper Voltan fighting people have mobilized themselves like one man behind the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] for the construction of a new, free, independent, and prosperous Upper Voltan society — a society free of social injustices, and free from the century-long exploitation of the people by international imperialism. I invite you to look back with me in order to draw the necessary lessons and to determine correctly the revolutionary tasks facing us now and in the near future. In having a clear understanding of the developments, we will further strengthen ourselves in our struggle against imperialism and the socioreactionary forces. In fact, where have we come from? Where are we heading? These are current questions that demand that we provide clear and firm answers, without any ambiguity, if we want to march confidently toward even more resounding victories.

The August revolution is the outcome of the Upper Voltan people's struggle. The August revolution is not only the consequence of the forceful, revolutionary move against the sacrosanct, reactionary alliance of 17 May 1983, it is also the outcome of the Upper Voltan people's struggle against their long-standing enemies. It is a victory over international imperialism and its national allies. It is a victory over the retrograde, obscurantist, and shady forces. A victory over all the enemies of the people who have hatched plots and woven intrigues against the people. The August revolution is the ultimate outcome of the popular uprising against the imperialist conspiracy of 17 May 1983 aimed at hampering the rising tide of all the democratic and revolutionary forces in this country.

That uprising was demonstrated not only by the courageous and heroic attitude of the Po commando units, who successfully resisted the pro-imperialist, nonpopular regime of Dr Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo and Colonel Some Yorian, it was also demonstrated by the democratic and revolutionary forces who allied themselves with patriotic soldiers and officers to put up an exemplary resistance. Therefore, the revolution of 4 August 1983, the victory of the revolution, and the advent of the CNR are undisputably the consecration and the logical outcome of the Upper Voltan people's struggle against domination and neocolonial exploitation, against the (?subjugation) of our country, and for the independence, freedom, dignity, and progress of our people. Simple-minded and superficial observers, who confine themselves within pre-established norms, cannot change the facts. The August revolution has clearly inherited and pursued the popular uprising of 3 January 1966. It is the continuation and a higher-quality phase of all the major popular struggles whose number increased gradually over the past few years, all of which marked the systematic refusal by the Upper Voltan people, particularly by the working classes and wage earners, to be ruled as before.

The most striking and significant dates of that popular struggle are December 1975, May 1979, October and November 1980, April 1982, and May 1983. It is a fact that the great popular revolt that followed the pro-imperialist and reactionary provocation of 17 May 1983 created conditions favorable to the advent of the 4 August revolution. As a matter of fact, the imperialist conspiracy on 17 May prompted a massive grouping of democratic and revolutionary forces and organizations which mobilized during that period, initiating unprecedented bold actions. In the meantime, the sacrosanct alliance of reactionary forces behind the moribund regime was unable to halt the

progress of the revolutionary forces who assaulted the anti-popular and antidemocratic regime more and more publicly. The popular demonstrations of 20, 21, and 22 May were felt nationwide due essentially to their great political significance: They were the tangible evidence of the overt adherence of all the people, and especially the youths, to the revolutionary ideals championed by men treacherously murdered by the reactionary forces. These demonstrations had a great practical bearing because they marked the determination of all the people and the youths who stood up to fight properly and concretely the forces of domination and imperialist exploitation. They were a shining symbol of the truth according to which, when the people stand up, imperialism and its social allies tremble. The history and the development of the political awakening of the masses are a dialectical process which cannot be perceived by reactionary logic.

This is why the May 1983 events largely contributed to speeding up the process of political awareness in the country to such an extent that the people in general took a major qualitative leap toward understanding the situation. The 17 May events have largely contributed to opening the eyes of the Upper Voltan people. Now the imperialist exploitation appears more cruel to them. They drew from (?these events) lessons far richer than the lessons of the past events. During that day, the people learned, with an unsuspected rapidity and clairvoyance, lessons that 1,000 days of studies cannot provide. The 17 May events made it possible for the Upper Voltan people to better know their enemies. Henceforth, in Upper Volta, everyone knows who is who, who is with whom, who is against whom, for what reasons, and who does what for what reasons.

Such events, which are always the prelude to great changes, contributed to strip bare the exacerbation of class struggles in the Upper Voltan society. In this regard, the August revolution led to the solution of social contradictions that could not have been solved through compromise. The enthusiastic adherence of the masses to the August revolution is a tangible demonstration of the immense hope the Upper Voltan people place in the advent of the CNR for the ultimate realization of their profound aspirations for democracy, freedom, independence, and the recovery of the dignity and glory of our fatherland from 23 years of particularly submissive neocolonial regimes.

In Upper Volta, despite great efforts, 90 percent of the people are hungry and must accept agricultural products meant for international aid. In addition to that, the imbalance between export and import contributes to the dependence of the country on the outside world. The trade deficit which results from this has grown a great deal over the years and imports surpass exports by about 25 percent. More clearly, even though we receive food aid from outside, we also buy from them and our economy is heading steadily toward destruction. These private investments from the outside world are not only insufficient, but they also strain the country's economy and do not contribute to the capacity of the country's economic development.

Inadequate efforts to engage in productive investment has led the state of Upper Volta to play a fundamental role in the economy of the state through its efforts to encourage private investment. This was a difficult situation because it is a fact that the country's income is based primarily on fiscal income, which represents 85 percent of the country's total income, and this is mostly derived from import and other taxes. Apart from the efforts of national investment, 70 percent of the country's income is used to pay workers' salaries and to see to the smooth running of administrative services. What then remains of this income for social and cultural investment?

In the field of education, our country is one of the least educated with an average literacy rate of 16.4 percent and an illiteracy rate of 90 percent. [as heard] That is to say, out of 100 Upper Voltan nationals, hardly 8 know how to read and write.

In the health sector, the death rate is very high in our subregion because of the proliferation of contagious disases and others. How then can this catastrophic situation be arrested when we know that in Upper Volta we have only one hospital bed for every 1,200 inhabitants and one doctor for every 40,000 people? These facts sufficiently illustrate the heritage left us by 23 years of neocolonialism and 23 years of national deception. This situation, which is one of the most disheartening ones, cannot leave any Upper Voltan national who loves the well-being of his country indifferent. Our people — a courageous and a hard-working people — have never tolerated such a situation. They have understood that it was not a question of fate, but a matter of bad organization based on injustice by a minority group. That is why our people have alwyas sought for ways and means of putting an end to the old order. That is why the National Council of the Revolution, which is the beginning of these efforts and sacrifices, assumed the responsibility of establishing a new order and restoring to our country its real place as a prosperous and respected country. The parasites, who always profited from colonial and neocolonial Upper Volta, are and will always be hostile to the changes ushered in by the 4 August 1983 revolutionary process. Their reason is that they remain attached by an umbilical cord to international imperialism.

They are and remain the defending servants of their acquired privileges due to their imperialist allegiance. No matter the situation, they will remain as they are and will continue to contribute to all efforts aimed at regaining their lost kingdom. We should never expect a change of mentality and attitude from these nostalgic citizens. They are not sensitive to the language used by the revolutionary class which is fighting against exploiters and oppressors. To them, our revolution will constitute the most authoritative organ and a means by which the people will use all their strength to fight them. Who are the enemies of the people? The ones who were the liers in the faces of the people during the 17 May events and who were enraged against the revolutionary forces. These enemies were identified by the people during the revolutionary process.

In the first place, they are the Upper Voltan bourgeoisie who are distinguished by their work and who some call state bourgeoisie, [word indistinct] bourgeoisie, and average bourgeoisie. These are the enemies of the people who are opposed to the present revolution — enemies that the people themselves distinguished during the May events. This is the main, isolated enemy faction who, protected by a military group, expressed their class support for the moribund and reactionary regime ushered in by the pro-imperialist coup d'etat. Apart from the reactionary and

antirevolutionary social class mentioned above, the rest of the people form the true Upper Voltan population — a people who express their hatred for imperialist domination and exploitation and who have never stopped fighting everyday against the different neocolonial regimes.

Revolutions all over the world do not look alike. Every revolution has characteristics that make it different from the others. Our revolution is no exception. It takes into account the characteristics of our country, its stage of development, and also its subjugation to the world capitalist and imperialist system. Our revolution is taking place in a retarded agricultural country where the weight of the traditions and ideologies preached by a social and political group greatly suppress the popular masses. The revolution we have ushered in is twofold — it is democratic and popular, and its main objective is to destroy imperialist domination and exploitation. It will carry out its mission while taking into consideration the limitations imposed on it by the social situation inherited from the past.

The CNR is convinced that for this revolution to be truly popular, it has to replace the neocolonial state machinery with new machinery, one that can ensure the sovereignty of the people. The question is, how can this popular power be exercised? How to organize this popular power is an essential factor for the future of our revolution. Up to today, the history of our country has been mainly dominated by conservative and exploiter classes who have exercised antidemocratic and unpopular dictatorships and dominated the economy, the ideology, the culture, the judicial service, and administration of our country. The first objective of the revolution is to take power from the Upper Voltan bourgeois class which is in alliance with imperialism and bring it closer to the people. This means to say that henceforth, the people's power is to be opposed to the undemocratic, unpopular, and reactionary alliance of those people who favor imperialism. This democratic and popular power will be the foundation — the solid basis — for the revolutionary power in Upper Volta. Its most important duty will be the total rebuilding of the whole state machinery, including its administration, its tribunals, its police and its army, which had been so constructed as to serve and defend only the selfish interests of reactionary social classes and groups. Its duty will be to fight against counterrevolutionary activities aimed at regaining the lost paradise in order to crush completely the resistance of the reactionaries who are eager to win back their past glories. This is the important role that the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] will have to play in support for the attacks of the popular masses on the citadels of the reactionaries and counterrevolutionaries. In this immense and breathtaking maneuver, we have started remolding the administrative map of the country for more efficiency. We have also begun renewing the administration of administrative districts in a more revolutionary manner. At the same time, we have dismissed some civil servants and soldiers who, for various reasons, cannot follow the rhythm of the present revolution. We are aware of the fact that we still have much to do. The CNR, which in the revolutionary process ushered in since 4 August 1983 has assumed the leadership of the national life in the political, economic, and social spheres, will have to establish local organs in the various sectors of the national life. And this is the profound reason for the creation of the CDRs, which are the representatives of the revolutionary power in the village, towns, and work places. The CDR constitutes the authentic organization of the people in the exercise of revolutionary power.

The National Army (?supports) the democratic and popular revolution. According to the principles of revolutionary Upper Volta's policy on defense, no clearsighted people can entrust their national defense to a group of men, however competent they are. Clearsighted people insure the defense of their fatherland themselves. In this connection, our Armed Forces are only a detachment, more specialized than the rest of the people, safeguarding Upper Volta's internal and external security.

The revolution will assign three tasks to the national Armed Forces. First they must be able to combat its internal and external enemies and participate in the military training of the rest of the people. This entails increased operational capabilities, thus turning each soldier into a competent fighter unlike the former army which was only a (?group) of wage-earners. Second, they must participate in the efforts of national production. In fact, the new soldier must live and suffer with the people to whom he belongs. The parasitic army is gone now. Henceforth, in addition to the use of arms, the Army will go to the fields, raise cattle and sheep, and keep poultry. The Army will build schools and dispensaries and ensure their operation. It will airlift (?mail), sick persons, and agricultural produce from one region to another. Third, the Army will turn each soldier into a revolutionary militant. The time is over when people claimed that the Army should be neutral and disengaged from politics while it was made the bulwark of reaction, and the champion of imperialist interests. The time is past when our Army behaved like a group of mercenaries in conquered territories. That time is gone forever now.

Armed with political and ideological training, our soldiers — officers and the rank and file — engaged in the revolutionary process will cease to be potential criminals and become conscious revolutionaries, living with the people like fish in [as heard] water. The People's National Army, which will be in the service of the revolution, will not have in its midst any soldiers who hold the people in contempt, ridicule them, and mistreat them. A people's army in the service of the people — such is the new army which we will build to replace the neocolonial army, which is a true tool for oppression and suppression in the pay of reactionary bourgeoisie always ready to dominate the people. Because of its internal organization and operation, the new Army will be fundamentally different from the old army. In this regard, instead of the former blind obedience of his seniors, the new soldier will develop sound discipline toward his seniors. Though strict, such discipline will be based on the (?psychology) of men and troops. Contrary to the views of reactionary officers moved by a colonial spirit, the politicization and revolutionization of the Army does not mean the end of discipline. In a politicized army, discipline will have new contents. Such discipline derives from the fact that the rank and file are equal in terms of human activities and differ only in terms of concrete tasks and responsibilities. Strengthened by this definition of the relationship between the troops, the military cadres must respect their men, (?help them and be understanding). In this connection, the CDRs have a fundamental role to play. CDR members of the Army must be solid pillars for the education of the People's National Army in a democratic and popular state where this Army's essential tasks will be internally the maintenance of the revolutionary order and the

safeguard of the democratic and popular power, and externally the defender of territorial integrity.

On the role of the Upper Voltan woman in the democratic and popular revolution: Some obsolete traditions in our society consider the woman a beast of burden. Hitherto, the woman was excluded from the decision-making process. In making the woman responsible, the revolution will create conditions for the liberation of her fighting spirit. In its revolutionary policy, the CNR will work toward mobilizing, organizing, and harnessing all active forces of the nation and the woman will not be forgotten. She will be involved in all struggles against the various bulwarks of the neocolonial society. In this construction of a new society, she will be involved at all levels of decisionmaking and in the organization of the nation. The ultimate goal of this is to establish a free and prosperous society where the woman will be equal to the man at all levels.

The process of revolutionary changes ushered in since 4 August brings to light the need for major democratic and popular reforms. In this regard, the CNR is aware that the establishment of a national, independent, self-sufficient, and planned economy implies the radical transformation of the present society, a transformation which itself entails the following major reforms: land reform, change of orientations, reform of production and distribution machinery in new sectors.

The CNR will not entertain illusions in designing gigantic and sophisticated projects. On the contrary, the creation of many small agricultural projects will make it possible to turn our territory into a vast farm to fight against those starving the people — all types of speculators and operators in agriculture. Finally, we will fight against imperialist domination in our agriculture.

People of Upper Volta, comrade men and women militants of the Upper Voltan revolution, the needs of our people are immense. To meet these needs requires revolutionary changes in all sectors. In this regard, in the sphere of health care and social assistance to the masses, the objectives to be achieved can be summed up as follows: health care available for all, the promotion of a policy for child and mother protection, a policy of immunization against transmissible diseases through extensive vaccination campaigns, and the promotion of the masses' awareness of the need for good hygenic practices. All these objectives can only be achieved if the masses deliberately involve themselves in the efforts under the revolutionary directives of the health services. In the field of housing, which is of crucial importance, vigorous measures must be taken in order to put an end to speculations and to the exploitation of workers through excessive rents. Important measures must be taken in this field to work out a reasonable rent scale, parcel out the unused land in all quarters, and step up the construction of new housing units in sufficient number and at reasonable rates for workers.

One of the major preoccupations of the CNR is to unite the various nationalities [as heard] which form Upper Volta in order to wage the common struggle against the enemies of our revolution. As a matter of fact, our country comprises a large number of ethnic groups differing from one another by their languages and their customs. It is all these ethnic groups that form the Upper Voltan nation. In its divide-and-rule policy, the imperialists endeavored to exacerbate the contradictions among these groups and set them against one another. The CNR policy will aim at uniting those different nationalities so they will enjoy equal status and equal opportunities. To this effect, particular attention will be given to the economic development of the various regions, the promotion of economic exchanges among them, the fighter against prejudices among them, and the settlement of their differences in order to achieve unity and punish those who foster division.

In view of all the problems confronting our country, the revolution appears as a challenge which we must overcome thanks to our desire to win, and with the effective participation of the masses mobilized into CDRs. In the near future and after drawing up sectoral projects, the entire territory of Upper Volta will be a vast worksite where the participation of all able-bodied Upper Voltans of working age will be required for the merciless war which we will wage to transform this country into a prosperous and shining country, a country where the masses will be the only masters, the material and immaterial heads of the nation.

Lastly, we must (?determine) the part to be played by the Upper Voltan revolution in the world's revolutionary process. Our revolution is an integral part of the world movement for peace and democracy against imperialism and all sorts of hegemonism. This is why we will endeavor to establish diplomatic relations with all countries irrespective of their political and economic systems on the basis of the following principles: mutual respect for independence, territorial integrity, national sovereignty, nonaggression, nonintervention in others' internal affairs, and commercial relations with all countries on an equal footing and on the basis of mutual benefit.

Our solidarity and our active support will be for national liberation movements fighting for the independence of their countries and the liberation of their people. This support is destined particularly for the Namibian people under SWAPO leadership, the Saharan people in their struggle for the recovery of their national territory, and the Palestinian people struggling for their national rights.

In our struggle, all anti-imperialist African countries are our objective allies. Our rapprochement with these countries is necessary in view of the neocolonial groupings coming into being on our continent. Long live the democratic and popular revolution! Long live the CNR! The fatherland or death. We shall overcome.

ANGOLA

Foreign Trade Talks With Cuba Under Way

MB040900 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] Official talks in the field of foreign trade between our country and the Republic of Cuba are under way in Luanda in order to examine the evolution of trade relations between the two countries. The plan for development of trade relations is included in the working agenda of this meeting, which is taking place under the leadership of [Foreign Trade] Ministers Ismael Martins on the Angolan side and Ricardo Cabrizas Ruiz for the Republic of Cuba. The Cuban Foreign Trade Ministry delegation, which arrived in Luanda Saturday, is expected to hold talks with a number of Angolan Government officials and visit some of our country's provinces.

Meeting Discusses ODP Work, Propaganda, Defense

MB021018 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 2 Oct 83

[Text] The first national assembly of coordinators of the MPLA-Labor Party cells in the People's Defense Organization [ODP] ended its working sessions at the Commander (Jika) Political and Military School in Luanda early last night. The assembly analyzed the activities carried out by the MPLA-Labor Party grassroots organizations within the ODP and discussed matters concerning improvements in combat, operational and political preparedness and military discipline, and the present conditions [words indistinct] of the combatants (?in that) organization.

The participants [words indistinct] recommended that the ODP political leadership make party activities more dynamic in accordance with higher directives from the political leadership of the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Angola and exercise greater control over transfers of members of the party and the Youth of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [JMPLA] in accordance with the guidelines of the party's Central Committee.

The assembly recommended that the coordinators of the MPLA-Labor Party cells and the ODP instill greater action into the activities of the respective party grassroots organizations and in the application of penalties against those who violate the guidelines determined by the authorities. It was recommended that the political commissars of the provinical commands of the ODP give greater attention to the political and cultural activities of the party's grassroots organizations and the JMPLA.

In his closing speech, Captain (Joao Domingos Kaiama), chief of the political directorate of the ODP command, encouraged the participants to implement the guidelines approved during the meeting so that the political and ideological work among combatants becomes more effective. He also said that broad, dynamic propaganda activity is necessary in order to convey to the people the political line of the MPLA-Labor Party and to enlighten the combatants about the ideals of the defense of the fatherland.

Crude Oil Exports Over 11 Million Barrels

MB030901 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] The National Angolan Fuel Company and the Cabinda Gulf Oil Company exported over 11 million barrels of crude oil, of which the United States was the main buyer during the second quarter of this year. During the same period, the Cabinda provincial department of the Ministry of Foreign Trade issued 21 licenses to import raw materials and foodstuff valued at over 23 million kwanzwas. Sources in Cabinda point out that enterprises connected with import, notably (Cabimex) and (Angodespachos), are experiencing a satisfactory economic situation and that work being carried out by the latter is valued at 19,493,000 kwanzas, which is equivalent to 8 percent more than what was planned. Within the framework of its pledges, (Angodespachos) has supplied 13,167,548 kwanzas to the state general budget the second quarter of this year.

BOTSWANA

Masire Address to Nation on Independence Anniversary

MB301500 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Address to the nation by President Dr Quett Masire on the 17th anniversary of the country's independence — recorded]

[Text] On the occasion of the 17th anniversary of our independence, it gives me great pleasure, indeed, to extend to all people of Botswana my warmest congratulations and best wishes. Today, 30 September, is our national birthday, a day of reflection and a day of hope. It is an opportunity for us to revitalize our commitment to work for a better future.

The past 12 months have been a period of mixed blessings for our country. On the political front, we have continued to enjoy an atmosphere of peace and stability, thanks to our unflinching commitment to preserve those democratic traditions and ideals which have made our nation an object of envy and admiration in a world full of strife. In order to maintain this national character, we must be vigilant to defend our democracy against encroachment from within or from without.

The political stability which has become a way of life in Botswana is an index of our country's maturity and sense of purpose. This does not mean that we should allow ourselves to be lulled into complacency and self-satifaction. Our national unity and our chosen path of our development will from time to time be put to a test of endurance. We should never be found wanting in our resolve to maintain a united, stable, and peaceful nation.

In this connection, I need hardly remind the nation that the coming year is a year of our general elections. The registration of voters will take place before the end of the year. It will be those who will have registered themselves who will be in a position to exercise the right to vote in 1984. It is my duty to appeal to you all to register yourselves as voters.

I have in the past made you aware that the right to vote for a leader and a political party of your choice is a very precious possession which must be guarded jealously and used to the full. Many elsewhere are either denied this right or have to compromise. You must all, therefore, take your duty to vote seriously to ensure a high turnout and a truly representative democratic government.

When I addressed you last year on the occasion of our 16th anniversary, I informed you that the country was going through a period of economic difficulties due in part to a depressed market for our minerals and to a serious drought. Today, a year later, I see no respite in sight. The world economic situation has not made any marked improvement, and our country is experiencing another serious drought condition for the second year running. I should say that this points to more difficult and more daunting times ahead.

It is, therefore, my duty to call upon the people of Botswana to stand firm to ensure their continued survival as an independent nation. We can only achieve this if we increase our national productivity in every facet of our economic activity. It is all the more necessary and more compelling than ever for everyone to do his best given the difficult times we face today.

The greatest difficulty we have had to face in the current year is that of water supply. The susceptibility of Botswana's economy to drought and water shortages has been clearly demonstrated by the need for government to review its development projects and for the private sector to retrench its economic activities, and yet this country will continue to develop and its people to survive. This points to the need to use the available resources more effectively and responsibly. It is the essence of national independence that we should employ more self-reliance in difficult times like these in order to pull through.

As in the past, I shall now reflect, if only briefly, on some aspects of the international situation. East-West tension, and in particular tension between superpowers, continues to dominate our daily lives. We have to express concern as the richer nations channel more and more of their resources into the never-ending arms race, while the poor nations struggle for survival. It is a destabilizing feature of our times that the privileged minority remain indifferent to the plight of the majority of the human race, much to the detriment of international cooperation.

In southern Africa, freedom and human dignity continue to be denied to the majority people of South Africa and Namibia. A situation where the minority dominate the majority by reason of their color is, in itself, a great source of destabilization. It would be against the laws of nature that such inhumanity should be allowed to continue unchallenged. It remains our hope and wish that it will still be possible to resolve this unhealthy situation by political means.

In these circumstances, therefore, my appeal to all the people of Botswana is that they must move forward as one people, united in our resolve to steer our country clear of all pitfalls. We must all work hard to keep Botswana peaceful and make her prosperous.

MADAGASCAR

Premier Receives Visiting Soviet Delegation

MB301610 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 0430 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] Prime Minister Desire Rakotoarijaona yesterday morning received a visiting Soviet delegation from the Armenian SSR. The head of government expressed his satisfaction at receiving the delegation in Antananarivo. The meeting between the two parties reaffirmed the fraternal friendship that exists between our two countries. We are currently working toward consolidating our independent economy, but these efforts will fail without peace in the world. This is why Madagascar supports any efforts made toward securing world peace, the prime minister stressed. Mr Desire Rakotoarijaona also expressed his best wishes for success to the visiting Soviet delegation.

The Soviet delegation held a press conference yesterday afternoon at the end of its visit to Madagascar. The delegation members expressed satisfaction with their visit, as stated by the head of the delegation, Adrianiy Leynovich (?Chernov). During their stay the delegation members were able to familiarize themselves with the efforts made by the Malagasy people to build socialism in Madagascar. The Armenian delegation members expressed wishes for success to the Malagasy people on the path that they have freely chosen.

The delegation arrived in Antananarivo with several gifts, including ambulances and sports and education equipment. The end of the visit was marked with the publication of a joint communique.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Departs for Six-Nation European Tour

MB031144 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] President Samora Machel, heading a large Mozambique delegation, today begins an 18-day tour of six European countries. The president left Maputo last night accompanied by his wife Graca Machel, who is the education minister; Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano; Interior Minister Armando Guebuza; and Economic Affairs Minister Jacinto Veloso.

The first stop on the tour is Belguim, and during his stay President Samora will make an official visit to the headquarters of the European Economic Commission. On Wednesday he travels on to Holland and then to Portugal, Yugoslavia, France, and Britain. It is the first time that President Samora has visited any of these countries since Mozambique won its independence from Portugal in 1975.

Before leaving Maputo, President Samora officially opened the Rovuma Hotel, which has been undergoing extensive reconstruction and modernization. The president praised the work that had been carried out and announced that the hotel will be

available for conferences, weddings, and other celebrations as well as for honeymoon couples. The hotel, which is owned by the Frelimo Party, will be managed by people to be recruited outside the country who will also help train Mozambicans.

NAMIBIA

Harare Reports SWAPO Rejection of Conference

MB031324 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] The South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, of Namibia, has rejected an invitation to attend a multiparty conference sponsored by the Pretoria regime in Windhoek this month. A SWAPO statement says the so-called multiparty independence conference on Namibia is the latest neocolonial scheme by the Pretoria regime. Apartheid-ruled South Africa is refusing to implement the UN resolution on solving the Namibian independence problem, and its troops are currently fighting against SWAPO liberation forces. It has tried several internal settlements, but has failed each time because SWAPO did not take part.

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign Minister Discloses Note to Mozambique

MB010910 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, has revealed particulars of a message from the South African Government to the Mozambican Government about a South African citizen who has been in detention since 23 August. Speaking at a public meeting in Johannesburg, Mr Botha said that after press reports in Mozambique had come to his attention on 25 September, he had ordered an immediate investigation to establish the man's identity.

It appeared that the man was 27-year-old Mr Dion Janse van Rensburg, who had a record of instability as indicated by frequent changes of jobs. After completing his school education in 1975, among other things, he had held jobs in the defense force, the South African transport services, and as a male nurse at a hospital in Pretoria. Mr Botha said Mr Janse van Rensburg had a criminal record dating back to 22 December 1975. At present he was wanted by the South African police for questioning in connection with allegations of fraud. The minister said the background of the affair had many similarities to the Schoeman affair.

The South African Government said in the message that the Mozambican Government should realize that any attempts to link Mr Janse van Rensburg or his actions to the South African Government and to parade him as anything other than a fugitive from South African justice would further erode progress toward finding a realistic basis for cooperation between the two governments. In his speech, Mr Botha also referred to the coming referendum, and said a no vote would not reduce the communist onslaught against South Africa. He said the Progressive Federal Party was trying to bring about polarization between black and white in South Africa, and the party's policy of a national convention had to be rejected entirely. Mr Botha said South Africans should broaden their vision and should rise above party politics in the interests of a greater and stronger South Africa.

Johannesburg Reports Thatcher Letter to MP

MB031752 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] The British prime minister, Mrs Thatcher, says Britian wants its relations with South Africa to be as fruitful as its other interests and the realities of the situation in southern Africa will allow. Her remarks form part of a comprehensive statement contained in a second letter to Conservative Party Member of Parliament Mr Ian Lloyd, who has replied to her earlier letter dealing with certain matters affecting South Africa.

Mrs Thatcher said her government recognized that there had been many changes in South Africa. Furthermore, it remained willing to acknowledge any progress in the search for a solution to what she described as the country's complex and delicate racial problems. She also understood the political constraints under which the South African Government had to operate, but the policy pursued by successive governments in South Africa had inevitably affected relations with Britian, which had to take account of the international concern about apartheid.

She said it would be wrong for Britian to dissociate itself from the measures adopted by the international community to signal its disapproval of the South African policy. However, at the same time Britian would continue to watch developments in South Africa carefully and form its own judgment.

UK Embassy Corrects SABC Commentary on Thatcher

MB301230 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] The British Embassy has drawn the attention of the South African Broadcasting Corporation [SABC] to the fact that its summary in yesterday's morning comment of remarks made by the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, could create a wrong impression. In the comment, Mrs Thatcher was quoted as saying: The internal situation in South Africa is the underlying cause of Soviet involvement and meddling in southern Africa. What Mrs Thatcher said, in fact, was: The frontline states today secure the great bulk of their weaponry not from Western sources but from the Soviet Union and its allies. It is these opportunities for communist involvement and meddling in African affairs that I see as the most worrying aspect of the escalation of tension in southern Africa region, the underlying cause of which is the internal situation in South Africa itself. Mrs Thatcher went on to say: The well-being and stability of the region require there to be peaceful and timely change in South Africa. As I have made clear, our policy is directed towards this end.

Thabu Nchu Incorporated Into Bophutatswana
MB010915 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] The free state town of Thabu Nchu in the district of Excelsior will be incorporated into Bophutatswana today. The proceedings will be held in the municipal sports stadium in the town, and will start at 1030. President Mangope of Bophutatswana will be the guest of honor at the proceedings, while the South African Government will be represented by the minister of health and welfare, Dr Nak van der Merwe. Military units of the South African Defense Force and the Bophutatswana Defense Force will give a performance at the occasion, while aircraft of the black state will take part in a fly-past.

SWAZILAND

Police Locate Arms Cache Near RSA Border
MB040843 Mbabane The Times of Swaziland in English 4 Oct 83 p 1,16

[By Pat Jele]

[Text] The police have discovered a massive cache of weapons at Mhlangatane, north of Pigg's Peak. A spokesman for police headquarters said it was the biggest haul ever made in Swaziland. The spokesman would not give a full list of the arms as investigations are still underway. But he did say it included machineguns, bomb components and other explosives. No arrests have been made.

The previous biggest haul was made at Checkers last year. That find included rocket launchers. Police are reported to have found the arms at a homestead in the Mhlangatane area on Thursday after being tipped off. Some of the machineguns were found in the boot of a car with foreign registration beginning with the letters KD. A large quantity of explosives was found in a large trunkbox. The firearms and explosives were taken to the police station at Pigg's Peak and later transferred to the central armoury at Matsapha.

Police said the explosives were sensitive to heat and needed to be kept in a safe place. The car in which the firearms were found has been impounded. The police said the haul was bigger than the arms displayed as an exhibit in a High Court case earlier this year. The prosecution described those as being enough to start a war. Police sources said the registration of the impounded vehicle suggested that the car could have been from Ka-Ngwane. If the car had come from Ka-Ngwane, it could have come through the Malelane area where the border fence between Swaziland and South Africa was weak, the sources added.

The commissioner of police, Mr Titus Msibi, was not available for comment by late yesterday. He was reported to be in a meeting with senior officers. This is the second arms cache to be found in the Pigg's Peak area recently. Early last year, a large quantity of arms of war and bomb components were found hidden in the veld in the Mkhuzweni area. After the arms were confiscated, a local resident was assaulted by a group of unknown people who suspected him of having informed the police.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Interviewed on Leadership, RSA Talks
MB020745 Lusaka Times of Zambia in English 20 Sep 83 p 1

[By *Times* reporter]

[Excerpts] President Kaunda is willing to retire from the presidency as soon as Zambians say they do not want him. But he will serve the masses as long as the leadership in the party and the nation as a whole think that he should help to steer the course of the country. He says this in an interview with *Africa Now* magazine conducted by its editor in chief, Peter Enahoro. He describes the presidency as a lonely job.

The interview, published in the current issue of the magazine, reviews President Kaunda's involvement in Zambian politics from the pre-independence era to now and covers a wide range of subjects. Asked whether he longed to retire, President Kaunda says: "If my colleagues in the leadership of the party and the nation as a whole think I should help, I will help as long as they need my services. But the moment they say they do not need my services, I will be happy to go back home."

President Kaunda warns other leaders against taking people for granted as doing so is what he described as immoral. It is for this reason that he, party leaders, and members of the Central Committee are constantly going around the countryside meeting the people and learning about their problems. But the real test of the popularity of the government comes at elections time, says the president. He adds that since the vote is secret "nobody can cheat there."

President Kaunda recalls that during the 1978 presidential and general elections 19 percent of the electorate had voted "no" for him. "I respect their feelings. On the other hand, I must accept the verdict of the majority who voted for me. So there are tests which let us know how the country feels about me," says President Kaunda in the interview conducted at State House.

President Kaunda said he had met racist South Africa leaders such as Prime Minister Pieter Botha in the past not as a "double-dealer" but to point out to them the evils of apartheid. Dr Kaunda has defended his meetings with the racists although the late John Vorster had tried to humiliate him in the eyes of other OAU leaders. Exposing tactics, President Kaunda says in the article he has always contacted other black leaders before meeting the Pretoria racists. In the 60's he had got in touch with Vorster just after the Lusaka Manifesto on Southern Africa.

Kaunda Addresses Opening of Provincial Congress
MB020750 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 2 Oct 83

[Text] President Kaunda returned back to Lusaka from Kabwe yesterday after opening this year's Central Province party conference, at which he directed party officials to stop organizing the party from their offices, but to go out where the people are

found in order to identify with their problems and aspirations. The president, who has opened other provincial conferences this year, emphasized that the party could not be strong unless party leaders started working hard among the people.

Dr Kaunda also said that the country was facing economic problems because of the low prices of copper, oil, and other imports from industrialized countries. [sentence as heard] He, therefore, implored the nation to gear itself towards increased food production to meet Zambia's needs and export requirements and urged Zambians to brace themselves for the more serious economic problems in the face of continued drought.

766 Candidates To Contest Assembly Elections

MB301950 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] Forty-six out of 812 aspiring candidates who applied for adoption by the Central Committee have had their applications rejected. According to the government gazette issued this afternoon in Lusaka, the (?cancellation) of 46 applications leaves 766 candidates to contest the 125 seats in the National Assembly. The polling day in the heaviest contested election in the country is 27 October.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Statement Condemns RSA, Greets Botswana

MB031834 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has again strongly condemned the acts of aggression perpetrated by the brutal Pretoria regime led by P.W. Botha. In a statement issued this afternoon, Comrade Mugabe has expressed disgust at the destabilization tactics applied by the racist regime in member-countries of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference.

The statement also carried a congratulatory message to President Quett Masire of Botswana on his country's 17th independence anniversary, and it says Zimbabwe stands unshaken and united in condemning these acts of barbarism.

In part the message reads: Your Excellency, under your wise guidance and that of the Botswana Democratic Party, the people of your country have striven to better their political, social, and economic conditions. My government and I express our profound confidence that the excellent relations that happily exist between our two sister republics will continue to be nurtured and consolidated. These bonds of friendship and cooperation (?proved) through your support of Zimbabwe's liberation struggle have continued to go from strength to strength.

ZANU-PF Regional Seminar Opens in Chinoia

Muzenda on Party Shortcomings

MB030510 Harare Domestic Service in Ndebele 1110 GMT 2 Oct 83

[Text] Comrade Muzenda, the deputy prime minister, has said that if the leadership of ZANU-PF deliberately ignores and overlooks the aspirations and trust the people have placed in them, they risk far greater dangers than those from the known enemies of the nation. Speaking today at the opening of the ZANU-PF regional seminar for Mashonaland West in Chinoia, he said leaders who have no self-respect and exhibit laziness in their work are the very real enemies of the ZANU-PF.

Comrade Muzenda revealed a list of shortcomings that are not in accordance with ZANU-PF principles, namely, the pilfering of money from party coffers, the failure to convey to senior personnel complaints lodged by ordinary people, and the failure to respond strongly to defense of the party against misinformed and maligning propaganda. Comrade Muzenda said that it is necessary for the party to take active and effective measures in informing the rural public about the role of the government and also seek total support from these people.

The deputy prime minister said that national rallies are an important element for the ZANU-PF leadership. The more rallies that are held, the better the leadership can be in a position to carry on the task of governing in a well-informed and determined way.

Unity Talks Collapse

MB030616 Harare Domestic Service in English 0490 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] The ZANU-PF national organizing secretary, Comrade Maurice Nyamgumbo, who is also the minister of mines, says unity talks between the ruling party and ZAPU have collapsed. Addressing a ZANU-PF Mashonaland West provincial seminar in Chinoia yesterday, Comrade Nyamgumbo said ZAPU had presented outrageous proposals that the ruling party could not accept. He said ZAPU had insisted on the appointment of its leader, Dr Joshua Nkomo, as deputy prime minister. It had also insisted on the release of detained ZAPU members, the restructuring of the national Army, more posts in the cabinet, and the safe return of refugees at the Dukwe camp in Botswana.

Comrade Nyamgumbo criticized the ZAPU delegation to the talks for relying on such petty demands instead of concentrating on issues of national unity, which are of more importance to the nation. He said as far as ZANU-PF is concerned, the unity talks are off, and there will be no more such talks until ZAPU realizes the importance of national unity.

The seminar, which was opened by the deputy prime minister, Comrade Simon Muzenda, was also attended by the ministers of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira; local government and town planning, Comrade

Enos Chikowore, and community development and women's affairs, Comrade Teurai Ropa Nhongo.

State Minister Warns Against ZAPU 'Banditry'
MB301856 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] The minister of state responsible for security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, has accused the ZAPU bandits of continuing to harass people in Matabeleland North and South, as well as in some parts of the Midlands. Speaking at a provincial show at (Dambatoko) community center in Chiweshe district today, Comrade Munangagwa called on ZAPU to stop [word indistinct] the peace-loving people of (Berugi). He said if ZAPU chooses not to deal with the bandits, the government will be left with no choice but to stamp out the ZAPU banditry.

Comrade Munangagwa said it is the security of the state which will depend on the people themselves. The people, he said, are the vanguard in the preservation of security and the consolidation of the country's independence. However, Comrade Munangagwa noted that the dissident problem has decreased in scope because of the cooperation from neighboring African countries. Present at the show was the minister of agriculture, Senator Denis Norman, and the deputy minister for water resources and development, Comrade Joseph Kaparadza.

Ombudsman Concerned Over Growing Abuse of Power
MB301818 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] The ombudsman of Zimbabwe, Mr Justice (Manival Moodley), said members of the public are increasingly becoming more vulnerable to the abuse of power exercised by public officers and government authorities. Speaking at the annual general meeting of the Consumer Council of Zimbabwe in Harare yesterday, Mr Justice (Moodley) said there is increasing concern to protect the citizens of a democratic government. He said inefficiency, incompetence, ignorance, corruption, nepotism, and inability to arrive at decisions in a fair and just manner may result in maladministration, which contributes to injustices suffered by citizens. He said public servants who are not well trained fail to understand and interpret rules and regulations and, as a result, fail to give decisions and to act appropriately.

Noting that it is important for the ombudsman to make himself available to those who seek assistance and advice concerning complaints, Mr Justice (Moodley) said it is the duty of his office to protect the interests of public officers and government authorities on the one side and citizens on the other to ensure efficient administration.